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Input companies are entering carbon market

By Tim Alexander Illinois Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. – New management options and financial opportunities for farmers within the ecosystem market are emerging courtesy of the nation's leading input providers. Representatives of input manufacturers Bayer CropScience, Corteva Agriscience and Nutrien Ag Solutions joined the Illinois Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (ISAC) and organizations from Indiana, Ohio, Iowa and Wisconsin for a June 22 webinar that explained the companies' carbon and water quality programs.

Bayer CropScience

"We try to keep the farmers at the center of the program as we continue to evolve our offerings," said Lisa Streck, responsible for grower acquisition at Bayer. "We launched our pilot program in 2020 and incorporated the feedback from that program. We've also established a carbon advisory panel that has growers across the Midwest guiding us. Through those different settings with farmers and through additional research, (we've learned) what's important to farmers in carbon programs is simplicity, flexibility and certainty."

Those three themes are woven throughout the Bayer carbon program, which requires a Climate FieldView account and an agreement to share field data in order for a farmer to participate. Farmers will share the field conservation practices they have adopted or plan to adopt (such as no-till, strip-till or cover crops) with Bayer agronomists, who will help them to implement or maximize climate-smart practices.

Verification is accomplished by providing Bayer with timely data that documents their soil and water conservation practices, along with occasional, scheduled on-site verifications by independent observers.

"We've structured our programs to pay on a per-acre basis by practice. Bayer registers the carbon credit on a carbon registry that can help us achieve our internal sustainability commitments, or be made available to companies that are working to achieve theirs," Streck said.

The Bayer carbon program is now available to farmers in 17 states, with coverage across the Corn Belt and including some southern and eastern states. Growers who have adopted climate-smart practices since 2012 are

eligible to enroll in the Bayer program and receive retroactive payments for up to five years of prior carbon sequestration. These "historical" payments are not offered by all ecosystem market companies.

Farmers who operate on rented or owned land are eligible for the Bayer carbon program. For the 2021 season, they can reasonably expect to receive around \$3 per acre for no-till or strip-till land in year one, with an extra \$6 per acre in year two for installing cover crops. Contacts generally run for 10 years. More info: www.bayer.com/en/us/enhanced-carbon-program.

Corteva AgriScience

Corteva's carbon initiative is broadly offering \$5 to \$20 per acre for farmers who introduced cover crops or switched to conservation tillage for the current growing season, according to company spokesperson Emma Fuller. Corteva guarantees farmers carbon purchases of \$15 per metric ton (MT), with the company providing record-keeping, soil sampling and purchasers for the credits.

"Our goal since day one has been making this simple and transparent for farmers, and really focusing on the outcome of (the credits) they are generating," Fuller said, adding that the Corteva program is open to corn and soybean growers in Illinois, Indiana and Iowa. "We expect to see increases in geography and crops going into 2022."

Corteva currently does not offer historical payments to farmers for past adaptation of climate-smart practices. "We're somewhat stuck between offering credits that buyers will actually purchase, so while we're focused on trying to find solutions for those early adopters we didn't want to hold back on the opportunity to offer (the program) to farms today," Fuller said.

Under the Corteva program, if a farmer devoted 420 acres to conservation tillage and cover crops and earned a half-ton carbon credit per acre over the course of one year, he or she would stand to earn a payment of more than \$3,000 by selling the credits to Corteva at \$15 per MT.

Corteva's carbon purchasing program is part of the company's 2030 sustainability goals and Climate Positive Commitment. Initial farmer contacts last for two years. More info: www.granular.ag/carbon/.

(Input Companies on page 3)



Above: Tracy Llewellyn got all the hay in her barn on her central Indiana farm last week. She reported that the young men who helped out "never complain and work so hard with smiles on their faces." Photo by Tracy Llewellyn.

Perennial bioenergy crops show advantages over annuals

By Doug Schmitz Iowa Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Perennial bioenergy crops such as miscanthus and switchgrass have shown advantages to traditional annual bioenergy crops like corn and soybean rotations. They assimilate more carbon dioxide, and require fewer nutrients and less water, according to a new study by the U.S. Department of Energy.

"This suggests these perennials are promising bioenergy crops," said Jennie Rice, senior research scientist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and Bob Vallario, biological and environmental research program manager for the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science, and co-authors of the study.

Rice and Vallarion projected biofuel (Crops continued on page 3)



Above: Perennial bioenergy crops such as miscanthus and switchgrass have shown advantages to traditional annual bioenergy crops like corn and soybean rotations, namely since they assimilate more carbon dioxide, and require fewer nutrients and less water, according to a new study by the U.S. Department of Energy (photo courtesy of the USDA).





Hoosier farmer grows produce in shipping containers not fields - Page 1B



In This Farm World:

Some Indiana and Michigan fields now waterlogged

Bv Stan Maddux Indiana Correspondent

Farmers in northern Indiana and southern Michigan were hoping for rain before recent storms left their once thirsty crops waterlogged, especially in low areas containing more standing water.

Now, they're hoping for things to dry out before it rains again to avoid further damage to their crops.

"There could be more extreme losses if the water doesn't start dropping a little more quickly," said Matt Schafer, a corn and soybean producer from LaCrosse, about 30 miles from the southern tip of Lake Michigan.

'We've had an ample amount. We don't need any more," said Ken Seifert, who raises corn and soybeans on about 2,000 acres in Three Oaks and Galien in southwest Michigan.

Schafer said his corn and soybeans fields in southern La Porte and Porter counties received nearly 3 and 4 inches of rain Friday, Saturday and Sunday. That's in addition to precipitation ranging from 1.6 to 3.7 inches in his fields the previous weekend.

Some farmers in both regions were pumping water from once low drainage ditches to help alleviate standing water in their saturated fields.

Ironically, parts of both states were classified as being in a drought prior to the rainfall. Conditions were not quite as dry in northern Indiana and southern Michigan but crops were starting to need to water.

"We were kind of always on the edge of being too dry and now we're probably past being on the edge of too wet," Schafer said.

"It was time for some rain but we don't need any more rain for a couple of weeks," Seifert said.

Schafer said some of his crops might not survive or suffer from stunted growth depending on how quickly the standing water recedes. A spell of hot, dry weather would then be needed to fully recover.

Seifert described a similar situation in his corn and soybeans fields, which received up to 2 inches of precipitation and close to an equal amount of rain the previous weekend.

He said all of the storms combined brought about twice as much rain as his crops actually needed. "Two inches would have been ideal," he said.

Seifert said he considers himself lucky, though, because rainfall amounts were much heavier in nearby areas like Baroda.

to the Kankakee River, which was still rising a day after the rains

The Galien River runs through some of the fields Seifert farms with help from his sons.

A portion of Schafer's crop is close higher in the past but they did go up enough to spill into some of their fields. "A couple of weeks of hot the storms, Schafer said there was weather is what we need," Seifert

> Schafer said some farmers nearby were already irrigating prior to the said.

Both men have seen the rivers storms and he was about to before the clouds opened up.

> At one point during the height of even flooding in some of his fields on flat ground. "The rain came down so fast it took a while to soak in," he



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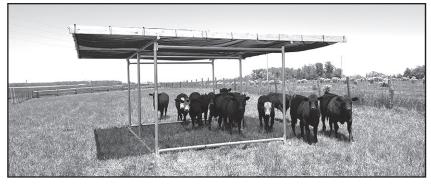


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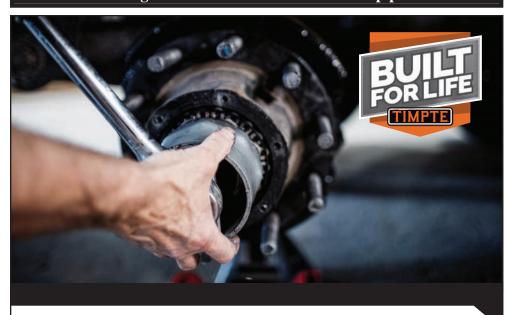
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Crops

FROM PAGE 1

production will continue its global expansion. However, to understand the effects of this trend, they said scientists must accurately represent biofuel crops in land surface models.

The study constitutes the first attempt to simulate perennial bioenergy crops in the Community Terrestrial System Model.

"The (model) is an important multisector model," the researchers said. "With this enhancement, (this model) becomes one of the first land models that can evaluate the complex dynamics of biofuel expansion. The model incorporates energy, water, land and climate dynamics, and it works at local, regional and global scales."

Using observations from biofuel plants in the Midwest, researchers simulated two biofuel perennial plants, miscanthus and switchgrass.

Researchers implemented miscanthus and switchgrass into the Community Terrestrial System Model, using parameters for photosynthesis, seasonal changes, resource allocation, plant decomposition and carbon cost for nitrogen uptake.

"They simultaneously integrated land management practices," the study said. "When the researchers validated the simulations against site-level measurements, the results demonstrated that the model was capable of capturing both overall patterns of carbon and energy fluxes, and the plants' growth from leaf emergence to old age."

According to the study, the perennials miscanthus and switchgrass tend to be more productive than a maize-soybean rotation, and offer larger net carbon sinks as a result of their longer growing season, larger leaf areas, and aboveground biomass, which is plant or animal material used as fuel to produce electricity or heat.

Compared to annual crops, these perennials crops lead to increased transpiration, lower annual runoff and larger carbon uptake, the study said.

"The model simulations suggest that with higher carbon dioxide assimilation rates and lower demands for nutrients and water, high-yielding perennial crops are promising alternatives to traditional annual crops for bioenergy feedstocks," the study said.

"This promise includes stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations," the study continued. "It also includes the environmental conservation benefits from reducing fertilizer application, which alleviates surface water and groundwater contamination."

Emily Heaton, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign professor of regenerative agriculture, and extension biomass specialist, said, "Perennial biofuel crops are better than annual crops at sustainably storing sunlight in plant biomass (nature's battery).

"Because perennials only need to be planted once, and because they internally recycle their nutrients each year, it takes less fossil fuel, fertilizer and irrigation to grow them," she said. "Biofuels are the original fuel. Modern biofuels like ethanol have been around since the automobile was invented, and you can find many stories about Henry Ford's interest in plant-based fuels while the liquid fuel industry was developing.

"Corn grain ethanol and sugarcane ethanol have been mature, widely-used fuels in the U.S. and Brazil, respectively for decades," she added.

She said the Community Terrestrial System Model used in the study is a new unified model for research and prediction in climate, weather, water and ecosystems supported by the U.S. National Center for Atmospheric Research.

"I have not personally used it, but my research benefits from the tools and predictions developed by it," she said. "In my research, we test predictions made by models like (the Community Terrestrial System Model), and provide data on biofuel crops that the modelers can use.

"Said another way, we do experiments in the field to inform the models about perennial crop growth," she added. "If the model predicts something that doesn't match what we observe in the field, we do experiments to help understand why."

She said her research investigates "the role of perennial plants in a regenerative agriculture portfolio. We identify ways to use perennial crops to regenerate and improve our air, soil, and water resources, while also enhancing natural habitat and human communities," she said.

"Much of my research centers on integrating perennial crops like those in the study (miscanthus and switchgrass) into row-crop land in ways that ensure rural communities prosper, and the natural resource base on which we all depend thrives," she added.

She said there are also other advantages of bioengineered crops for biofuel and biomass production. "While switching to renewable energy like wind and solar are great for putting less carbon dioxide in the air, only crops actually 'remove' carbon dioxide from the atmosphere," she said. "Basically, they offer one of our greatest chances to work with nature to protect and enhance the foundation of life on this planet," she added.

Rice and Vallarion said although the local-scale simulations (used in the study) shed light on the potential benefits of using these perennial grasses as bioenergy feedstocks, quantifying the consequences of their plantations at larger scales warrants additional investigation.

Input Companies

FROM PAGE 1

Nutrien Ag Solutions

Sally Flis, sustainable agriculture field manager at Nutrien, said the company has a "slightly different approach" to how it is conducting its pilot carbon programs this year. "We are approaching this challenge through a portfolio program where we're building on our other supply chain partners, downstream manufacturers and processors, growers and crop consultants, along with other strategic supplier-partners like Corteva, who are helping out with our seed pilot in Indiana," she said.

Nutrien's carbon portfolio also leverages key industry partners and supply chain stakeholders including American Farmland Trust, BASF, PepsiCo and Syngenta, among others. Their 2021 pilot programs are available to farmers in more than a dozen states and parts of Canada, encompassing more than 200,000 acres.

"We provide year-round agronomic support to growers who implement our principles on the ground, in addition to data collection opportunities, soil and tissue testing and lab abilities, and work to find the best buyers and best value for them," Flis said.

Financial opportunities for growers include nutrient management credits. Fertilizer management practices can earn credits, along with no-till and cover crop adaptation, according to Flis. No information was shared during the webinar as to how much a farmer could expect to earn on a per-acre basis through their enrollment in Nutrien's carbon program. More info: www.nutrien.com/sustainability/strategy/feeding-planet-sustainably/carbon-program.

A full recording of the June 22 Farming for the Future webinar, part of an ISAC summer webinar series, may be viewed at www.ilsustainableag.org/ecomarkets. Subsequent series webinars are scheduled for July 13 and July 15, 2021

Obituary

Debbie

BARBARA SHOUFLER (1939-2021)

Barbara (Hudson) Shoufler, age 81, of Greenfield, passed away June 15, 2021. She was born in Greenfield on July 10, 1939, to Harold Hudson and Lurene (Shields) Hudson. She graduated from Charlottesville High School in 1957. On Jan. 5, 1958, she married Jimmie Ray Shoufler in Charlottesville.

Barbara was a homemaker for her family and then worked for Indiana Knitwear Corp. in Greenfield for 20 years. She was a member of the Hancock County Shorthorn Association; Indiana Shorthorn Lassie Association, where she served as secretary/treasurer, and the Indianapolis Hiking Club. Barbara was a strong mentor and advocate of breast cancer awareness. She was known to many as the unofficial greeter at the Sue Ann Wortman Cancer Center, where she spent a lot of her time in the past five years. In her free time, Barbara enjoyed her flowers and visiting with her friends. She is survived by her children,

Obituary

DALLAS EARL THOMPSON

(1942-2021)

26, 2021. He was born August 28, 1942, in Byrdstown, Tenn., a son of

the late Everett Earl and Willie (Lee)

Plowing fields at the age of 6, Dallas has basically been a farmer his entire life. A life which revolved around his family and his passion for agriculture, particularly, the livestock industry. Since the late 1960s he raised, showed and sold Charolais cattle and helped promote the breed across the country. A fine and honest businessman, Dallas

has been owner and operator of

Thompson Agri Service, Inc. for the

past 35 years. Dallas was also an avid supporter of 4-H and FFA.

of 58 years, Saundra Thompson; daughters, Diana Arellano, Linda (Jeff) Lane, Brenda (Jason) Greene; adoptive son, Wade (Peggy) Beatty;

Lane, Colby (Kristen Fairchild) Lane, Blayne (Marce Forrest) Greene, Justin (Bre Butler) Greene; adoptive

Counceller; great grandchildren,

and Hunter Lane; adoptive great grandchildren, Elijah and Lilian Counceller; sisters, Phyllis (Whitey) Roland and Bonnie (Dave Wooldridge) Mueller; aunt, Oradean Lee; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Dallas was preceded in death by

Services were June 30 at

Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service in Knightstown. Burial was in Glen Cove

Cemetery. Memorial contributions

may be given to the Henry County

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grandchildren,

granddaughter,

Finley,

his parents.

4-H Foundation.

Dallas is survived by his wife

Kelton

Carla

Rowan, Kayson, Olivia

(Kendra)

(Josh)

Thompson.

Dallas Earl Thompson, 78, of Knightstown, passed away June

Greenfield. Dennis (Kathy) Shoufler, of Fortville, and Dan (Diane) Shoufler, of Fortville; grandchildren, Justin Shoufler, of Fortville, Kyle (Lauren) Shoufler, of Modoc, Zach Shoufler, of Fort Collins, Colo., Jacob Shoufler, of Guymon, Okla., and Maggie Shoufler of Fortville; brother, Don (Sylvia) Hudson, of Greenfield; sister Charlotte (Phil) Slaughter, of Greenfield; brother-in-law, Ted (Rita) Shoufler, of Bloomington; sister-inlaw, Sharon Sexton, of Columbus; and several beloved nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her husband and parents.

The funeral was June 29 in the

(Duane) Vansickle,

Chapel at Gravel Lawn Cemetery, Fortville; burial was in the cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made by mail to the "The Jim and Barbara Shoufler Youth Scholarship Fund", c/o Greenfield Banking Co., 1920 N. State Street, Greenfield, IN 46140, or the Sue Ann Wortman Cancer Center, 801 N State St, Greenfield, IN 46140. Arrangements by Erlewein Mortuary & Crematory, Greenfield.

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	This Week	Last Reported 6/21/2021	Last Year
Total Receipts:	432	880	576
Feeder Cattle: Slaughter Cattle: Replacement Cattle:	325(75.2%) 104(24.1%) 3(0.7%)	765(86.9%) 99(11.3%) 16(1.8%)	457(79.3%) 109(18.9%) 10(1.7%)
replacement cattle.	3(0.1 /0)	10(1.070)	10(1.770)

Compared to last Monday feeder steers under 600 lbs sold 5.00 to 6.00 higher in a limited comparison with very good demand; over 600 lbs sold 2.00 to 5.00 higher with very good demand in a limited comparison. Feeder heifers sold ostly 3.00 to 5.00 higher with very good demand. Slaughter cows sold 4.00 to 6.00 lower with light demand. Slaughter bulls sold 2.00 lower with moderate demand in a light test. Supply included: 75% Feeder Cattle (46% Steers, 27% Heifers, 27% Bulls); 24% Slaughter Cattle (93% Cows, 7% Bulls); 1% Replacement Cattle (100% Cow-Calf Pairs). Feeder cattle supply over 600 lbs

Groups of 20 head or more:

65 head 804 lbs 141.00 Blk-Mixed

FEEDER CATTLE STEERS - Medium and Large 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	205	205	160.00	160.00
1	280	280	166.00	166.00
3	315-332	326	165.00-170.00	168.39 Value Adde
3	370-375	373	170.00-171.00	170.33 Value Adde
2	435	435	170.00	170.00 Value Adde
4	455-488	480	163.00-165.00	163.47
5	450-490	471	167.00-175.00	171.12 Value Adde

J	310-313	313	170.00-171.00	170.33 Value Audeu
2	435	435	170.00	170.00 Value Added
4	455-488	480	163.00-165.00	163.47
5	450-490	471	167.00-175.00	171.12 Value Added
4	527-542	535	151.00	151.00
13	505-540	512	160.00-170.00	166.73 Value Added
2	587	587	151.00	151.00
7	585	585	154.50	154.50 Value Added
1	635	635	144.00	144.00
8	600-645	628	145.00-153.00	148.74 Value Added
1	665	665	138.00	138.00
3	650-655	653	143.00-145.00	143.66 Value Added
2	710	710	138.00	138.00 Value Added
1	765	765	138.00	138.00 Value Added
70	804	804	136.00-141.00	140.64
1	aan	ggn	121.00	121 00

SIEEK	STEERS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)					
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price		
1	405	405	156.00	156.00		
1	490	490	146.00	146.00		
1	560	560	146.00	146.00		
HEIFER	RS - Medium	and Large 1-2	(Per Cwt / Actu	ıal Wt)		
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price		
8	365-397	378	140.00-144.00	141.92 Value Added		
2	407	407	132.00	132.00		
3	405-435	415	138.00-144.00	141.25 Value Added		
7	490	490	138.00-139.50	139.29		
12	455-495	475	140.00-150.00	145.93 Value Added		
2	547	547	136.00	136.00		
3	520-540	528	141.00-146.00	143.66 Value Added		
14	561-595	575	136.00-144.50	141.19 Value Added		
1	645	645	123.00	123.00		
11	601-635	615	130.00-139.00	134.56 Value Added		
3	660-685	668	122.00-125.00	123.65		
1	660	660	129.00	129.00 Value Added		
1	730	730	118.00	118.00 Guaranteed Open		
1	765	765	112.00	112.00		
4	800-815	804	113.00-117.00	114.01 Guaranteed Open		
1	900	900	106.00	106.00		
HEIFER	RS - Medium	and Large 2-3	(Per Cwt / Actu	ıal Wt)		
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price		
	287	287	132.50	132.50		

100 00

1050

3	660-685	668	122.00-125.00	123.65
1	660	660	129.00	129.00 Value Added
1	730	730	118.00	118.00 Guaranteed Op
1	765	765	112.00	112.00
4	800-815	804	113.00-117.00	114.01 Guaranteed Op
1	900	900	106.00	106.00
HEIFER	RS - Medium	and Large 2-3	3 (Per Cwt / Actu	al Wt)
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	287	287	132.50	132.50
1	350	350	130.00	130.00
1	480	480	127.00	127.00
1	640	640	115.00	115.00
BULLS	- Medium ar		Per Cwt / Actual	Wt)
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
1	320	320	163.00	163.00 Fancy
2	420	420	161.00	161.00 Value Added
3	470-485	475	144.00-148.00	146.64
6	475-476	476	160.00-165.00	162.50 Fancy
1	455	455	157.00	157.00 Value Added
7	515-545	526	140.00-149.00	144.31
1	535	535	155.00	155.00 Value Added
15	550-582	569	142.00-149.00	146.40
10	600-635	615	140.00-143.00	141.89 Value Added
3	670-685	680	135.00-137.00	135.99
8	660	660	142.00-143.00	142.50 Value Added
1	705	705	120.00	120.00
3	726	726	131.00	131.00 Value Added
1	795	795	121.00	121.00
6	810-845	222	107 50 120 00	111 70

BULLS - Medium and Large 2-3 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt)

2	415-430	423	145.00	145.00	
1	460	460	138.00	138.00	
1	545	545	135.00	135.00	
2	555-575	565	128.00-137.50	132.83	
3	600-630	620	129.00	129.00	
BULLS	- Large 1-2 (Pe	r Cwt / Actu	ual Wt)		
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	
1	630	630	130.00	130.00	
SLAUG	HTER CATTL	.E			
cows -	 Breaker 75-80 	% (Per Cwt	/ Actual Wt)		
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
9	1190-1475	1302	62.00-66.00	64.76	Average
17	1290-1730	1463	67.00-72.00	69.03	High
1	1220	1220	60.00	60.00	Low
cows -	- Boner 80-85%	(Per Cwt /	Actual Wt)		
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
17	1105-1510	1285	63.00-67.00	65.48	Average
14	1070-1725	1286	68.00-75.00	70.06	High
3	1200-1360	1268	57.00-61.00	59.41	Low
cows -	 Lean 85-90% (Per Cwt / A	Actual Wt)		
Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price	Dressing
4	945-1145	1045	59.00-64.00	62.14	Average
	4055 4000	4405	05 00 00 00	00.50	I Date

1055-1200 65.00-68.00 66 53 High 54.00 54.00 BULLS - 1-2 (Per Cwt / Actual Wt) <u>Head</u> Wt Range Avg Wt 5 1815-2140 1978 Dressing Price Range Avg Price 103.55 REPLACEMENT CATTLE COW-CALF PAIRS - Medium and Large 1-2 w/ 150-300 lbs calf (Per Family

Actual Wt) 1200.00 Please Note: The above USDA LPGMN price report is reflective of the majority of classes and

grades of livestock offered for sale. There may be instances where some sales do not fit within reporting guidelines and therefore will not be included in the report. Prices are reported on an FOB basis, unless otherwise noted. Explanatory Notes:

Stage (Cattle) - Represents pregnancy stage (O = open; T1 = 1st Trimester, 1 to 3 months; T1-2 = 1st/2nd trimester, 1 to 6 months; T2 = 2nd Trimester, 4 to 6 months; T2-3 = 2nd/3rd Trimester, 4 to 9 months; T3 = 3rd Trimester, 7 to 9 months; T1-3 = all trimesters, 1 to 9 months; E = Exposed; B = Bred) Age - Numerical representation of age in years.

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News KY Dept of Ag Market News Bill Holleran Frankfort, KY | (502) 782-4139 | www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmn

https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2127

Missouri Direct Hay Report

Direct Hay Weighted Average Report For week ending Friday, July 2, 2021

Field work was pretty much a no go for most of the state the past week. Most areas north of the Missouri River have just quit counting after rain totals have passed 10 inches over the last 12-14 days and some areas a lot closer to the 20 than the 10 now. It goes without saying there is a lot of standing water in fields and significant damage. South central and South east however have not received much if any and most farmers would welcome a reasonable rain in those areas. USDA released acreage reports on Wednesday nationwide all hay acres were listed at 51.5 million, down about three-quarters of a million acres from last year. This would be the lowest total acreage since 1907. Although not released many expect yields and overall supplies to be much lower this year due to the extreme droughts in the west. Missouri however reported acreage of 3.12 million acres which is a 2 percent increase and locally supplies at this point at least do not appear to be of any concern. The supply of hay is moderate and demand is light to moderate. The Missouri Department of Agriculture has a hay directory visit http://mda.mo.gov/abd/haydirectory/ for listings of hay http://agebb.missouri.edu/haylst/ Although mostly a big disappointment Fescue seed harvest is still underway. About half of the producing areas in the state have been spared from the big rains but wind has been an issue knocking out what little seed was there. Prices are reported at mostly 0.63-0.65 cents per hundred weight.

HAY (Conventional)

,	Price Range
Ifalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Ton) Med. Sq. 3x3	200.00-250.00
Ifalfa - Supreme (Ask/Per Bale) Small Square	7.00-10.00
Ifalfa - Premium (Ask/Per Ton) Med. Sq. 3x3	160.00-200.00
Ifalfa - Good (Ask/Per Ton) Large Round	120.00-160.00
Ifalfa - Good (Ask/Per Balé) Small Square	5.00-7.00
Ifalfa - Fair (Ask/Per Ton) Large Round	100.00-125.00
Ifalfa/Grass Mix - Good/Premium (Ask/Per Bale)	
Small Square	6.00-8.00

Mixed Grass - Good/Premium (Ask/Per Ton) Large Round Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Ton) 80.00-140.00

60.00-100.00 Large Round Mixed Grass - Fair/Good (Ask/Per Bale) Sm. Sq. Mixed Grass - Fair (Ask/Per Bale) Large Round 25.00-55.00

STRAW (Conventional) Wheat - (Ask/Per Bale) Small Square

Source: USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News • MO Dept of Ag Market News Jefferson City, MO | (573) 751-5618 https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2929

4.00-6.00

6.1400

7.3075

6.1150

5 8400

6.6675

5 9100

7.2175

5.8400 7.1425

5.7700 7.1400

5.6400

13.7750

14.6842

13.9250

13.9850

Average 6.5050

6.4850

Daily Livestock Slaughter Under Federal Inspection

	I hursday, July '	1, 2021		
	CATTLE	CALVES	HOGS	SHEEP
Thursday 07/01/2021	119,000	1,000	458,000	6,000
Week ago	119,000	1,000	473,000	6,000
Year ago (act)	119,000	1,000	455,000	7,000
Week to date	477,000	5,000	1,837,000	30,000
Same Period Last Week	475,000	5,000	1,892,000	31,000
Same Period Last Year (act)	474,000	5,000	1,862,000	32,000
Previous Day Steer and Heifer	Cow and Bull			

Wednesday 93,000 27,000
Revised Wednesday Hog Slaughter...464,000 New Week to Date...1,379,000 Source: USDA Livestock, Poultry, and Grain Market News Division, St Joseph, MO

816-676-7000 e-mail: stjoe.lpgmn@ams.usda.gov www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/SJ_LS710.txt www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/livestock-poultry-grain www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/livestock-poultry-grain

Kentucky Daily Grain Bids

Grain Report for Thursday, July 1, 2021

Special Notes: **This report will not be published on Friday Jul 2nd or Monday July 5th.**

FUTURE SETTLEMENTS

Exchange	Commodity	Closing Settlement Prices (¢/bu) as of 7/1/2021
CBOT	Corn	719.75 (Jul 21) 601.75 (Sep 21) 589.00 (Dec 21) 595.00 (Mar 22) 598.75 (May 22) 596.25 (Jul 22) 527.50 (Sep 22)
CBOT	Soybeans	1446.75 (Jul 21) 1429.75 (Aug 21) 1406.00 (Sep 21) 1395.50 (Nov 21) 1398.50 (Jan 22) 1371.50 (Mar 22) 1362.75 (May 22)
CBOT	Wheat	658.50 (Jul 21) 665.50 (Sep 21) 673.75 (Dec 21) 681.00 (Mar 22) 683.50 (May 22) 679.75 (Jul 22) 683.25 (Sep 22)
CBOT	White Oats	393.50 (Jul 21) 385.00 (Sep 21) 386.50 (Dec 21) 389.50 (Mar 22) 390.50 (May 22) 391.25 (Jul 22) 394.00 (Sep 22)
KCBT	Wheat	631.50 (Jul 21) 638.25 (Sep 21) 648.00 (Dec 21) 656.25 (Mar 22) 660.00 (May 22) 651.00 (Jul 22) 653.00 (Sep 22)
MOL	Mhaat	000 00 / Ivi 24\ 020 75 (Con 24\ 020 50 /Don 24\ 022 75 /Mor 22\ 047 25 /Mor 22\ 004 50 / Ivi 22\ 724 50 /Con 22\

US #2 YELLOW CORN (BULK)

Basis Change

DN 4 00

Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional Region/Location Basic (¢/Bu) Ohio River - Lower KY 80.00U Ohio River - Lower KY 25 007

US #2 WHITE CORN (BULK)

129.00U Purchase Purchase 20.00Z to 25.00Z **Basis Change** Price (\$/Bu) Price Change UP 0.0250 6.1400 7.3075 UP 0 0050 DN 0.0325 UNCH 6.0900-6.1400 UP 0.0050

Country Elevators - Conventional Region/Location Basic (¢/Bu) Purchase

Purchase -10.00Z to 0.00Z 65.00U Green River Green River 2 007 105.00U to 135.00U Pennyrile -10.00Z to 0.00Z 16.00N to 91.00U Louisville Louisville -12 007 125.00Z Bluegrass Bluegrass -25 007 Barge Loading Elevators Conventiona Region/Location Basic (¢/Bu) Ohio River - Upper KY 126.00U Ohio River - Upper KY -13 007

Ohio River - Lower KY 130.00U to 134.00U Ohio River - Lower KY 0.00Z to 3.00Z

UNCH 5.7900-5.8900 UP 0 0050 UP 0.0250 **UNCH** 6.6675 UNCH 5 9100 UP 0.0050 DN 0.0750-UP 0.0250 DN 10.00-UNCH 7.0675-7.3675 UNCH 5 7900-5 8900 UP 0 0050 6.9275-7.3575 DN 0.4325-DN 0.1025 5.7700 7.1400 UNCH UP 0.0050 UP 0.0050 5.6400 UP 0.0050 **Basis Change** Price (\$/Bu)

5 7600

Price (\$/Bu) 6.5175

0.00Z to 12.00Z Barge Loading Elevators - Conventional Basic (¢/Bu) 50.00Z

129.00U

40.00X

-10 00X to 2 00X

36.00Q to 50.00N

-8.00X to 10.00X

-35.00U

-55.00U to -40.00U

DN 11.00-DN 12.00 7.3175-7.3575 UNCH 5.8900-5.9200 UNCH-DN 3.00 5.8900-6.0675 US #2 SORGHUM (BULK)

Price Change DN 0.1125 <u>Average</u> DN 0 0350 5.7600 DN 0.0850-DN 0.0950 7.3375 UP 0.0050 5 9025 DN 0.0825 7.3075 UP 0.0050-UP 0.0250 5.9644

DN 0.0550

DN 0.0025-UP 0.0075

DN 0.0950-DN 0.0650

DN 0.0750-DN 0.0550

Price Change DN 0.2100

<u>Price Change</u> UP 0.0250-DN 0.1250

Basis Change

Region/Location Ohio River - Lower KY 94.00Z

Price (\$/Bu) Price Change Average UP 0.0050 **UNCH** 6.8300 UP 0.0050 6.8300 US #1 SOYBEANS (BULK)

Country Elevators - Conventional Region/Location Basic (¢/Bu) Purchase -4.00X to 0.00X

Purchase

Purchase

Purchase

Green River

Ohio River - Lower KY

Country Elevators - Conventional

Purchase

Purchase

Green River

Louisville

Green River -25 00X -10.00Q to 15.00Q Pennyrile Pennyrile 35.00X to -25.00X -38.00N Louisville Louisville -65 00X 60.00X Bluegrass Bluegrass
Barge Loading Elevators -45 00X Conventional Region/Location
Ohio River - Upper KY Basic (¢/Bu) Ohio River - Upper KY -18.00X Ohio River - Lower KY 35.00Q to 41.00Q

<u>Price Change</u> DN 0.0025-DN 0.0325 **Basis Change** Price (\$/Bu) UNCH 13.9150-13.9550 DN 0 0350 13 9350 DN 0.0350 14.3550 UNCH 13 7050 DN 0 0350 13 7050 14.1975-14.4475 UNCH DN 0.0025 4.3225 UNCH 13.6050-13.7050 DN 0.0350 13 6550 UNCH 14.0875 DN 0.0325 14.0875 UNCH 13 3050 DN 0 0350 13 3050 UNCH DN 0.0350 UNCH 13.5050 DN 0.0350 13.5050 Price Change UP 0.0175 **Basis Change** Price (\$/Bu) Average

13.7750

13.8550-13.9750

13.8750-14.0550

US #1 MILLING SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT FOOD GRADE (BULK)

DN 2.00

DN 6.00-DN 3.00

DN 4.00-DN 2.00

Basic (¢/Bu) -15.00U Region/Location **Basis Change** US #2 SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT (BULK) Country Elevators - Conventional Basic (¢/Bu) Region/Location

Bluegrass -30.00U Barge Loading Elevators Conventional Region/Location Ohio River - Upper KY Basic (¢/Bu) -5.00U Ohio River - Lower KY -20.00U to -15.00U -25.00U to 3.00N Purchase

Price (\$/Bu) 6.2850 Basis Change UNCH-DN 3.00

Price Change DN 0.1300-DN 0.1600 <u>Average</u> 6.3050 6.3050 DN 10.00 UNCH 6.1050-6.2550 DN 0.1400 6.1800 5.9050 UNCH 6.3550 DN 0.1400 6.3550 Price Change UNCH <u>Average</u> 6.6050 **Basis Change** Price (\$/Bu)

DN 0.1900-DN 0.1700 6.4550-6.5050 6.4050-6.6150 DN 0.1600-DN 0.1300 USDA AMS Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News KY Dept of Ag Market News-Kevin Bowling, Market Reporter Frankfort, KY | (502) 782-4139

http://www.ams.usda.gov/lpgmm

https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/ | https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/viewReport/2892

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AG FUTURES July 5, 2021 Delivery Delivery Change Change Month Last Month Last Corn Wheat \$ 719-2 Jul 21 - \$ 0-4 Jul 21 \$ 662-0 + \$ 3-4 Sep 21 \$ 602-6 + \$ 1-0 Sep 21 \$ 666-4 + \$ 1-0 \$ 589-0 \$ 674-2 + \$ 0-4 Dec 21 unch Dec 21 \$ 681-4 + \$ 0-4 Mar 22 \$ 595-0 unch Mar 22 unch May 22 \$ 598-0 - \$ 0-6 May 22 \$ 683-4 Soybeans Jul 21 \$ 1463-2 + \$ 16-4 Oats Sep 21 \$ 388'6 + \$ 3'6 \$ 1443-4 + \$ 13-6 Aug 21 \$ 388'6 Dec 21 + \$ 2'2 Sept 21 \$ 1418-0 + \$ 12-0 \$ 1407-4 + \$ 12-0 Nov 21 Live Aug 21 \$123.575s + \$ 0.850 Jan 22 \$ 1409-6 + \$ 11-2 Cattle Oct 21 \$129.250s + \$ 1.100 \$133,200s + \$1,100 Soybean \$ 384.1 Dec 21 Jul 21 + \$ 2.3 \$136.725s + \$ 1.425 \$ 384.3 + \$ 0.9 Feb 22 Meal Aug 21 \$139.250s + \$ 1.400 Sep 21 \$ 386.0 + \$ 0.8 Apr 22 Oct 21 \$ 386.8 + \$ 1.6 Dec 21 \$ 390.7 + \$ 2.0 Lean Jul 21 \$107.300s - \$ 0.175 Hogs \$100.300s - \$ 2.950 Aug 21 Sovbean Jul 21 \$ 67.04 + \$ 2.00 \$ 84.875s - \$ 2.400 Oct 21 Oil Aug 21 \$ 63.94 + \$ 1.29 \$ 78.300s - \$ 1.775 Dec 21 Sep 21 \$ 63.32 + \$ 1.26 \$ 82.300s - \$ 1.450 Feb 22 \$ 62.87 + \$ 1.18 Oct 21 Dec 21 \$ 62.63 + \$ 1.14

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Senate passes bill that encourages environmentally friendly farm practices

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) - The involvement, it could be risky for U.S. Senate has approved a measure intended to encourage greater use of farming and forestry practices that prevent greenhouse gas emissions and remove planet-warming carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

It authorizes the USDA to create a program helping farmers, ranchers and private forest landowners earn payments through private markets for planting offseason cover crops, reducing tillage and taking other steps to lock up carbon in soils and trees.

"Solving the climate crisis is a critical challenge for all of us ... and we are taking landmark steps toward supporting agriculture and forestry leadership in addressing this," said Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), agriculture committee chairwoman and the bill's chief sponsor. The bill passed in June on a 92-8 vote.

It now goes to the House, which is considering a similar proposal.

Federal policies have supported environmentally friendly practices such as planting buffer strips to prevent soil and nutrient erosion that feeds harmful algae blooms in waters.

Some of those actions also work against climate change. Pulling marginal lands out of crop production, for example, can make way for carbon-absorbing grasses, trees and wetlands.

The National Academy of Sciences estimates agricultural soils could take in 250 million metric tons (276 million tons) of atmospheric carbon dioxide annually, which would offset 5 percent of U.S. emissions. If scaled up significantly, farm and forestry actions could offset the yearly carbon output from nearly 110 million automobiles, Stabenow said.

In recent years, companies wanting shrink their environmental footprints have begun purchasing credits for carbon and other greenhouse gases stored in farmlands and forests, working through brokers who contract with farmers to use the best-management practices.

Under the Senate bill, the agriculture department program would certify those who provide technical assistance to farmers entering carbon markets - and thirdparty experts who verify that the emission-preventing steps are taken.

Sen. Mike Lee (R-Utah), who voted against the bill, argued the federal program wasn't needed and could hamper innovation. "It would insert the federal government into a market that is blossoming on its own, imposing burdensome regulation and picking winners and losers in the carbon credit marketplace," Lee said.

Some environmental advocates contend voluntary actions by farmers won't do enough to prevent climate change.

"Rather than embracing offset schemes, we need to keep fossil fuels in the ground and transition away from emissions-intensive agricultural practices like factory farming and large scale monoculture," said Mitch Jones, policy director of Food & Water Watch.

But the bill drew support from other environmentalists and farm groups with which they are often at odds. The USDA is "perfectly positioned to define science-based best practices for measuring, reporting and verifying agricultural carbon credits," said Elizabeth Gore, senior vice president of the Environmental Defense Fund.

Without the department's farmers to participate in the markets and hard to determine whether the credits represent genuine emissions prevention, she said.

Zippy Duvall, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, said lack of access to reliable information about carbon markets and a shortage of technical assistance have deterred some landowners.

The bill "acknowledges potential of climate-smart farming while ensuring farmers would be respected as partners who can build on our strong foundation of environmental stewardship," Duvall





Franklin County 4-H Fair

Brookville, Indiana July 12-17, 2021

Franklin County 4-H Fairgrounds

GRANDSTAND EVENTS

Monday - Thursday, TBA Friday, July 16, 7:00 PM - Flat Drags Saturday, July 17, 5:00 PM - Flat Drags

GRANDSTAND PRICING:

MONDAY - SATURDAY: Adults (age 17 & up): Grandstands: \$10 Children (age 6-16): Grandstands: \$5 • Children 5 & under: Grandstands: FREE

4-H EVENTS

MONDAY, JULY 12

9:00-11:30 AM - Open Class Exhibits Entered 9:00 AM - 4-H Poultry Show 9:00 AM - 4-H Sheep Show 2:00 PM - 4-H Meat Goat Show 4:00-8:00 PM - 4-H Exhibits Open 4:00-9:00 PM - Red Barn Exhibits Open 6:00-10:00 PM - Commercial Exhibits Open 6:00-10:00 PM - Armband Night For Carnival Rides

8:00 PM - Public Speaking Champion Speeches 4-H Awards and Presentation 10 Year Members Awards

The 4-H Fairgrounds is Tobacco & Vape Free

TUESDAY, JULY 13

Rib Eye Day 9:00 AM - 4-H Beef & Starter Calf Show Rib Eye Dinner Served by the Cattlemen's Association 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM 4:30-7:30 PM

4:00-9:00 PM - Red Barn Exhibits Open 4:00-8:00 PM - 4-H Exhibits Open 5:00 PM - 4-H Rabbit Show 6:00-10:00 PM - Commercial Exhibits Open 6:30 PM - Dance Review Vicki's Studio of Dance

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

Pork Day 9:00 AM - 4-H Swine Show Pork Chop Dinner Served by the Pork Producers of K of C 11:00 AM-2:00 PM • 4:00 PM-7:00 PM 4:00-9:00 PM - Red Barn Exhibits Open 4:00-8:00 PM - 4H Exhibits Open 5:00 PM - 4-H Pet Show

6:00-10:00 PM - Commercial Exhibits Open 6:00-8:00 PM - 4-H Fashion Revue 7:00 PM - Horse & Pony Demo and Awards 8:00 PM - 4-H Talent Show

THURSDAY, JULY 15

9:00 AM - 4-H Dairy Cattle Show 11:00 AM - 4-H Dairy Goat Show 4:00-9:00 PM - Red Barn Exhibits Open 4:00-8:00 PM - 4-H Exhibits Open 5:00-6:30 PM - Kiddie Pedal Pull Registration 6:00-10:00 PM - Commercial Exhibits Open 6:00-10:00 PM - Armband Night For Carnival Rides 6:30 PM Baby Show

7:00 PM - 4-H Showman of Showmen 7:00 PM - Kiddie Pedal Pull

FRIDAY, JULY 16 7:00-9:00 AM - 4-H Livestock Check out 10:00 AM - Mini 4-H Livestock Exhibition 4:00-9:00 PM - Red Barn Exhibits Open 4:00-8:00 PM - 4-H Exhibits Open 6:00-10:00 PM - Commercial Exhibits Open 6:00 PM - 4-H Livestock Auction 7:00 PM - Flat Drag Races 8:30-9:30 PM - Red Barn Exhibits Released



Monday-Friday: 6:00 PM - Closing Saturday: 5:00 PM - Closing Carnival Armband Nights \$20.00 Monday, Thursday & Saturday





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International 234 Hydro, low hours. Woods belly mower, very good \$2,900



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Kubota BX2680 w/loader & 60" mower deck. 40 hrs., excellent! \$16,500



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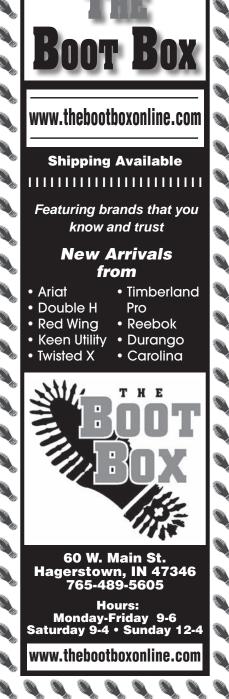
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48'x80'x14' 60'x120'x16' 1-20'x14' Split Slide Door 1-24'x14' Split Slide Dr. 1-24'x14' Split Slider Dr. 1-20'x12'-6" Split Slide Dr. 1-30'x16' Split Slider Dr.

1-Entrance Door

Engineered Truss 4' on Ctr. Engineered Truss 4' on Ctr. Due to the extremely volatile lumber market right now we are unable to print starting prices for the above listed barn sizes. Please call for a quote.







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Book on Hoosier Homestead Award recipients planned for 2022

By Michele F. Mihaljevich **Indiana Correspondent**

INDIANAPOLIS - A Missouri book publisher is looking for Hoosier Homestead Award recipients willing to share their farm and family stories.

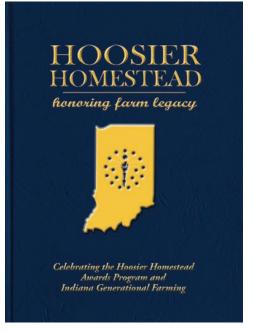
The stories will be compiled into a book, "Hoosier Homestead - Honoring Farm Legacy," to be published by Acclaim Press. Charlie Francis, the publisher's editor, expects the book to be released in late 2022. The company has published seven similar books for other states. including Illinois and Ohio.

"We've found that farm families are not afraid to talk about their farms," he said. "They are very passionate about them. If someone doesn't tell the stories and they're not recorded, they get lost. History is important."

The book has been endorsed by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), though a spokesperson said the agency isn't providing any funding for the project. ISDA's Hoosier Homestead program honors farms that have remained in the same family for 100, 150 or 200 years. Since the awards were first given in 1976, more than 5,800 families have been honored.

"Indiana has a rich history in agriculture," Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch said in a release. "The prospect of this book is very exciting and will further preserve our state's heritage and the Hoosier farm family's longstanding commitment to Indiana, agriculture and community."

Hoosier Homestead recipients interested in seeing their farm's story in the book should fill out a form at www.acclaimpress.com/books/ indianas-century-farms/. The form requests such information as the date the farm was first acquired, the types of crops raised originally and today, acreage and ownership of the farm through the years. Families



Above: A Missouri book publisher is looking for Hoosier Homestead farm stories.

may write a short story - 300 words or less will be published at no charge; stories of more than 300 words will be charged an additional fee per word. For families that prefer not to write their own story, an Acclaim editor will write a story based on the information provided.

Photos may be submitted. One will be published at no charge; there's a fee for more than one photo. A picture of current family members may be submitted, Francis said. Some families prefer an aerial shot of the farm or an older photo of the operation, he added.

The submission deadline is Aug. 31. The 8½-by-11 archive quality book may be pre-ordered at www. acclaimpress.com. Families don't have to purchase a book for their stories to be published. The book will also include a history of agriculture in the state. A brochure detailing the project may be found on the website.

Francis recalled a story submitted by a family for Acclaim's book on Illinois that included a reference to a future president. In the 19th century, family members had to vacate their land and while they were gone, squatters took over the property. The lawyer they hired to help get their land back was Abraham Lincoln.

Acclaim Press was started in 2005; the company also publishes fiction and spiritual books. Acclaim published its first farm heritage book in 2012.

"Judging by sales participation, there's an interest in these books," Francis said. "We do it because they work. People like them, tell their friends. We're counting on that word of mouth (for this book). The more people who hear about it, the more will participate, and the better the book will be for everyone. This project has taken on a life of its own. Each state has its own story to tell."



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Above: Cows would have to step on an electrified rubber mat if they ever decide to venture across a homemade cattle guard at a farm in Indiana.

Farmer uses wood to create his own cattle crossing guard

By Stan Maddux **Indiana Correspondent**

MORRISTOWN, Ind. - A need for a custom made cattle guard got the creative juices flowing for an Indiana farmer.

Tim Shutt, decided to use wood. He said not a single beef cow has attempted to make it across since his homemade cattle guard made from treated lumber was put to use two months ago at his father's small Indiana farm.

"It'll be there for a lot of years. We just wish we had done it before," he said. His 84-year old father, Russell, and mother, Janet, 83, now ride their ATV over the guard instead of hopping off and on the machine to open and close the eight foot wide gate to their pasture.

"We like it. We really do. It works very, very well," she said.

Wanting to make life easier for his parents, Shutt said he started looking for a traditional prefabricated metal cattle guard but was not able to find one at the right dimensions. Shutt also felt having one custom made would be too costly.

He also considered making a metal cattle guard to specifications himself, but with a very busy schedule, looked at wood as a major time saver. With help from his father, Shutt had the cattle guard built and placed inside the opening of the gate in about six hours. He said it would have taken him three to four days to complete the same task with metal.

The cost of lumber, stone and other materials was about \$1.150.

Another unique feature of the cattle guard is a homemade electrified rubber mat a cow would have to step on before trying to cross. Fastened to the mat is galvanized wire mesh attached to a hot wire running from the electric fence.

Shutt said the electrified mat is probably not needed because the cattle guard alone was proving to be intimidating enough to keep the cows from even wanting to approach the open gate. It's just there to provide an extra safeguard. "There's absolutely no way anything is going to get out," he said.

Below: A homemade cattle guard made of wood is making life easier on a small Indiana beef cattle farm by allowing the gate to remain open.



Cattle guards have gaps in the uncovered surface and venturing across is like stepping into the tires in an obstacle course. Shutt said the slats in his cattle guard are close enough for the tires of an ATV or tractor to navigate safely across but far enough apart to trip a cow.

The Shutt's have nine cows they use to provide freezer beef on their 5-acre farm near Morristown. The bought the farm 22 years ago after Russell, who grew up on a farm, retired from the construction industry.

Janet said she and her husband still get around well but appreciate not having to get up to open and close the gate especially on difficult jobs like heavy lifting inside their two barns. "It wasn't a real struggle but we can get back and forth much easier," she said.

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Central Indiana field day set for Aug. 25

During the 2021 Central Indiana Field Day in the nine-county area of Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fulton, Grant, Howard, Miami, Tipton and Wabash counties, speakers will talk to attendees about a wide range of topics to improve various aspects of farm production. Discussions range from recent research on soil health, entomology to the use of drones in farming and a farm budget update.

The event is 8 a.m.-2 p.m. on Aug. 25 at Kitchel Ag Solutions in Logansport. Ind.

The list of speakers includes Fred Whitford, clinical engagement professor of Purdue Pesticide Programs. He will discuss USDA Farm History. He has been coordinator of the pesticide programs since 1991.

Dr. Michael Langemeier, associate director for Purdue's Center for Commercial Agriculture, will provide a farm budget update. Most of his research has been focused on efficiencies and production costs of farms and ranches, crop and livestock enterprises. He joined Purdue in July 2012.

Other speakers include:

- Mike Titus, Co-Alliance, will have the grain bin rescue simulator.
- Austin Pearson, extension educator, will discuss how quadcopter (UAV), also known as

During the 2021 Central Indiana drones, can be used to improve eld Day in the nine-county area production.

- John Scott, digital agriculture extension coordinator, will discuss techniques for using field data in soybeans and precision agriculture.
- Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative (CCSI) - Joe Rorick, conservation agronomist, will talk about his insight on soil health.
- Dr. Christian Krupke, of Purdue, will talk pros and cons of Integrated Pest Management, the New IPM.
- Dr. Daniel Quinn, Purdue professor of agronomy, will present a corn update.
- Master Trooper Aaron Schaal, Indiana State Police, will provide transportation information.
- Logansport Fire Department will give First Aid/CPR instruction.

Lunch will be served. Participants can earn PARP, CCH and CEU credits by attending the event. Register by visiting http://bit.ly/CentralFieldDay21 or by calling one of the nine counties' extension offices by Aug. 20.

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ISA, ICGA tout Senate's approval of Growing Climate Solutions Act

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Growing Solutions Act received overwhelming approval with a 92-8 vote on June 24 on the floor of the U.S. Senate. Also known as Senate Bill 1251 and sponsored by Sens. Mike Braun (R-Ind.) and Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), the proposal creates a certification program at USDA to help eliminate entry barriers to farmer and landowner participation in carbon credit markets. Braun spoke in June with Indiana Soybean Alliance (ISA) and Indiana Corn Growers Association (ICGA) members about the benefits of his proposal.

"Market demand for carbon credits represents a significant opportunity for Indiana farmers to improve their annual income," said Mike Beard, a Frankfort, Ind., farmer and ICGA president, who attended that meeting with Sen. Braun. "We are very happy with the Senate's support of this bill, and we encourage the U.S. House of Representatives to take up the issue quickly and help farmers across the country."

House Ag Committee members Reps. Abigail Spanberger (D-Va.) and Don Bacon (R-Neb.) have introduced a companion bill that eventually will be combined with the Growing Climate Solutions Act.

According to Braun's bill, the new USDA program would offer reliable information about carbon markets and access to qualified technical assistance providers for farmers and landowners. This bill establishes a Greenhouse Gas Technical Assistance Provider and Third-Party Verifier Certification Program in the USDA to provide transparency, legitimacy and informal endorsement of third-party verifiers and technical service providers that help farmers and

private landowners generate carbon credits through a variety of agriculture and forestry-related practices. The USDA certification program will ensure these assistance providers have agriculture and forestry expertise, which is lacking in the current marketplace.

Stabenow, chair of the Senate Ag Committee, said passage of the Growing Climate Solutions Act will improve the environment by encouraging more farmers and landowners to enter the carbon credit markets.

USDA will administer a new website, which will serve as a "one-stop shop" of information and resources for producers and foresters who are interested in participating in carbon markets. Through the program, USDA will help connect landowners to private sector actors who can assist the landowners in implementing the protocols and monetizing the climate value of their sustainable practices.

"Gaining access to carbon markets is often confusing and difficult," said Mike Koehne, a Greensburg, Ind., farmer and chair of the ISA's Membership and Policy Committee. Braun first proposed the Growing Climate Solutions Act more than a year ago. In a series of meetings with Hoosier farmers and agricultural leaders, the proposal has been modified to its present form.

"Sen. Braun has worked with the Indiana Soybean Alliance and Hoosier farmers to make sure that the Growing Climate Solutions Act is agriculture friendly," said Phil Ramsey, a Shelbyville, Ind., farmer and American Soybean Association member. "This proposed law will help farmers as they start to engage carbon markets and implement more environmentally friendly practices."



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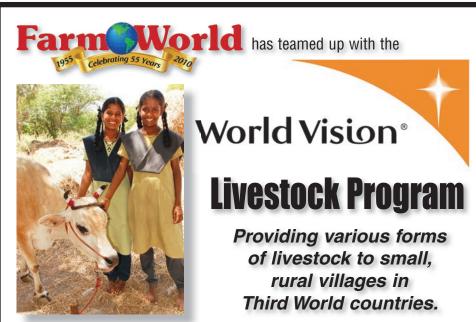












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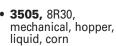
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Cow cuddling now the trend at farms across the country

By Doug Graves Ohio Correspondent

CHRISTIANA, Tenn. - First, there were cat cafes. A few years goat yoga emerged.

Now, the new trend is cow cuddling. and some people are spending a pretty penny to pet, brush and spend time with cows. Written reports are that some are spending \$50-\$200 for a 90-minute cow cuddling session. Cow cuddling is in upstate New York, California, Hawaii, and in Christiana, Tenn., and Towanda, Ill.

Apparently, there are some health benefits in spending time with cows, mainly as a stress reliever. And people have no fear cuddling up to a gentle giant that weighs 1,500-2,000 pounds.

At the Gentle Barn in Christiana, visitors can give the pigs tummy rubs, cuddle the turkeys, hold the chickens – and yes, cuddle the cows.

"We live in a concrete, violent, noisy, high tech, busy world," said Gentle Barn founder Ellie Laks. "We've lost out connection to animals, to nature and most of all, to ourselves. We encourage those to get hugs and unconditional love from our therapy cows. Meditate with them, hug them and let them reassure you. Put your worries down and leave renewed. We and the cows are here for you."

Jason Worsheski farms in Towanda and his cow cuddling sessions start at just \$30 an hour for two people. Worsheski claims customers come from as far as Chicago, Indianapolis and St. Louis to cuddle with this cows, and stay at his bed and breakfast.

"The animals are loved and well taken care of and they have a constant flow of new cows to offer patrons," he said. "After all, we still are a working farm."

Worsheski's farm provides about seven therapy sessions each day.

At Mountain Horse Farm, a 33-acre bed-and-breakfast in upstate New York, visitors can brush, pet, play and snuggle with therapy cows during hour-long 'cow cuddling' sessions priced at \$75 per couple. A trained equine therapist and a farm employee join each therapy session. Visitors

just sign a waiver and wear closed-toe

Suzanne Vullers, who co-owns the farm with her husband, said cow cuddling participants range in age from 12 to 75, adding that sessions with the cows are especially popular among millennials.

"The younger generation lives and has grown up in a technology-filled world where lots of interactions are via a screen," Vullers said. "It's easy to get disconnected from nature and animals, but we need those things to stay healthy and happy. Spending time on our farm one can connect with soulful horses and cows."

Vullers' two Scottish Highlander cross-bred cows, Bonnie and Bella, lie down in the grass and visitors are encouraged to join them as a way to relieve their own stress, anxiety, grief and loss. Bonnie and Bella have free choice about whether or not to interact with human guests. The animals are not tied down or confined to a small space and can walk away if they wish. The sessions are limited to once or twice a day, a handful of times a week.

"Cows like to be with you, they're very curious, they know their names and they always want to come up and see what's going on," Vullers said.

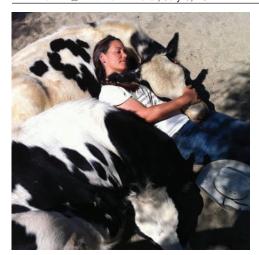
According to a 2019 report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Health Center for Health Statistics, nearly 60 percent of hospice care providers who offer complementary and alternative therapies suggested pet therapy to patients. The report added that human-animal interaction is known to lower stress and boost social skills, and science backs the benefits of specifically cow cuddling.

"Similar to meditation, hugging a cow can slow your heart rate and lower anxiety," Vullers said. "The body temperature of a cow is higher than humans and their heart rate is lower, so cuddling up with one is relaxing. And believe it or not, people drive for hours for the chance to embrace, brush and talk to the social bovines. People laugh, people cry. There's a variety of emotions going on there."

(Cow Cuddling continued on page 12)



Above: Cow cuddling on farms in Christiana, Tenn., and Towanda, Ill., is becoming the rage but it's only a start. Therapists say farm visitors are realizing that the animal-to-human contact is very beneficial to both the human and animal. (photo submitted)



Above: Some veterinarians say putting your arms around a large cow can increase oxytocin, the hormone released in social bonding. It's part of what can make support animals so comforting, they say. (photo submitted)

Cow Cuddling

FROM PAGE 11

At the Krishna Cow Sanctuary on the Big Island in Hawaii, James Higgins started cow cuddling three years ago on his 40-acre farm. Once on the sanctuary, three dows (Uma, Tulsi and Devi) eagerly come trotting at Higgins' call. When Higgins lies down, the cows do, too. Then, visitors lie down with the cows and snuggle up to them, scratching the inside of their fuzzy ears and under their necks.

"The people seem to live, and the cows seem to like it, too," Higgins said. He charges \$75 per session.

"Some people like to sit quietly with cows, others like to talk to them,"

American Forests says Detroit could use 1.2 million more trees

DETROIT (AP) – The city of Detroit could use more trees – about 1.2 million more, according to American Forests.

The Washington-based, nonprofit conservation organization has published Tree Equity scores for 150,000 neighborhoods in 486 urbanized areas.

Each score is based on how much tree canopy and surface temperatures align with the number of people living in a given area or neighborhood, income, employment, race, age and health factors. The scores indicate whether there are enough trees for everyone living in those areas to experience the health, economic and climate benefits that trees provide.

Low-income, predominantly minority neighborhoods have fewer trees than wealthier, mostly white areas, according to Chris David, American Forests geographic information system and data science vice president.

The premise of tree equity "helps cities identify where to target places that have been historically ignored," David said. "Where the places are that lack trees historically have underserved people in poverty, people of color."

Trees improve the quality of life in neighborhoods by providing shade that reducing heat-related health issues. They also improve air quality by helping to reduce air pollution and create jobs involved in the care of trees, the nonprofit said.

Data from the U.S. Census, USDA and U.S. Geological Survey was used to help calculate the scores. A score of 100 represents Tree Equity. Detroit's score is 80. The Phoenix area has a score of 80 and Rhode Island's Tree Equity is 73. Seattle has a score of 90. The scores can be used determine how many trees need to be planted in communities and funding needed to ensure their long-term care.



Above: Goat yoga, perhaps. But cow cuddling? It does exist and its popularity is spreading. Aimees Farm cow cuddle service in Arizona has offered the service for five years now. (photo submitted)

Higgins said. "Many hug them or simply snuggle with them. Cows love to be brushed and petted, so the feeling of comfort is mutual."

Warren Corson is a licensed professional counselor whose practice in Wolcott, Conn., includes a 50-are therapeutic farm with chickens, rabbits and ducks. He said he isn't surprised people are drawn to cow cuddling.

"It will not replace traditional therapy and it's not designed to, but a lot of people have lost that connection to nature and there's a need for touch," Corson said. "Cows are actually pretty empathic. They can be very intelligent. Cows are some of the most nurturing animals that we have."

This cow cuddling trend hasn't been spotted yet in Ohio, Indiana or Kentucky.

"There is some science to this elemental magnetism of cows," said Jim Herman, a veterinarian in Cincinnati, Ohio. "Because bovines are large and warm and have that slower heart rate, putting your arms around them can increase oxytocin levels in humans – that's the hormone released in social bonding. It's part of what can make support animals so comforting."

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Hearing held on Michigan's Ag EAP renewal

Michigan Correspondent

LANSING, Mich. - The Michigan senate held a hearing late last month to consider renewing the fees that fund the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP).

Without the renewal, funding for the program will expire at year's end. The fees that have been in place for the past 10 years include a pesticide registration fee and a

fertilizer tonnage fee, according to around for more than 20 years. When Rebecca Park, legislative counsel for the Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB). MFB was instrumental in devising the MAEAP concept, which has been called innovative and unique. MAEAP relies on the voluntary participation of farmers, who engage in so-called best practices, which are verified by a technician from the agriculture department.

To date, 3,500 farms have become MAEAP verified since 2011, although the program as a concept has been farmers become MAEAP verified, they get some protection from lawsuits under the state's Right to Farm law and receive a sign from the state showing their farms are MAEAP verified.

"It's a great program from a farmer perspective," Park said. "Farmers are paying into the program; I've heard people say this is a super expensive program, but farmers are the ones paying for this. MAEAP has been held as a national model for how to do conservation and environmental protection." Park participated in the senate agriculture committee hearing, which was June 17. According to the MFB, of the \$7.5 million budget that finances MAEAP programming, only \$700,000 of that is paid for by the state, with the rest paid for by farmers and agribusinesses.

Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Director Gary McDowell said that the general public helps to pay for the program as well, since fees for it are assessed on household pesticide products as well as commercial products. McDowell said he is not against MAEAP, only the senate bill currently under consideration.

"I really give the farm bureau credit

for coming up with this program," McDowell said. "It's been 20 years and we want to have some tough conversations. We don't want to get rid of MAEAP, we want to make it better. We want to be able to monitor the watersheds better. We feel we really need to monitor the non-point sources of pollution better. We see MAEAP as so important, maybe now more than ever.'

McDowell said he wants more money for MAEAP and for environmental protections generally, including money to compensate farmers for what they have to spend to become MAEAP verified and for more technicians in the field. He expressed some hope that the Biden administration would help to provide funds for more environmental protection for the state. "MAEAP is our prime environmental tool," McDowell added. "It's unique in the country; it certainly was unique when it was first conceived."

Bill sponsor and agriculture committee chairman Sen. Kevin Daley (R-Lapeer) criticized MDARD for not showing up at the hearing. "We have proactively reached out to the department on this issue since February, asking for recommendations and feedback on the program," Daley said in a statement. "While I appreciate the department stating they are hoping to work with us going forward, I think it's unfortunate that they are not here with us today.'

The state senate was set to adjourn late in June or early July and will reconvene for further consideration of the bill in September. The bill is Senate

Beef processing plant planned for southwest lowa

GLENWOOD, Iowa (AP) - A newly formed corporation has announced it is planning to build a beef processing plant in southwest Iowa that would bring 750 jobs to the region.

Cattlemen's Heritage officials said the plant would be built along Interstate 29 near the Mills-Pottawatomie County line, with construction scheduled to start next spring and end by late 2023, The Council Bluffs Nonpareil reported.

Officials said the \$325 million plant would process 1,500 head a day and have an estimated annual economic impact of \$1.1 billion. The jobs will pay an average of \$55,000 a year plus benefits.

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig said during a news conference the plant will be a welcome addition to the state's agribusiness infrastructure.

"There's a significant opportunity to expand meat processing capacity around the state," Naig said. "This facility will create additional market access for our producers, new jobs and economic activity in our rural communities."

Ernie Goss, the Jack A. MacAllister Chair in Regional Economics at Creighton University, said the project would be an "economic game changer" for Mills and Pottawattamie and surrounding counties.

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Chad Colby is a recognized expert on how to adapt new technology to farming operations. In addition to farming, he regularly appears on the national television program This Week in AgriBusiness with reports on new technology and how farmers can use it. Chad's presentations are high energy, informative, and practical.

Other seminar topics will include outlook sessions on the markets and weather, plus a program on tax law changes for farmers. A program on agronomy with Purdue Extension specialists Drs. Bob Nielsen and Shawn Casteel and a program on soil health and cover crops will also be featured.

Tennessee winery a family affair

By Celeste Baumgartner Ohio Correspondent

MAYNARDVILLE, Tenn. – Farming is unique. It allows you to do and be and grow into whatever you want. What you get out of it depends on what you put into it, in the opinion of James "Rick" Riddle.

"Limitations are self-imposed," he said.

Riddle grew up on a farm. After retiring as a colonel from the Air Force in 2006, he and his wife, Donna, moved to the run-down farm they had bought two years before. Shortly after, their kids, Nikki and James Jr., raised as city kids, came home and joined the farm effort.

"I wanted a place with a pond and a fence and some cows," Rick said. "Donna had a broader vision for the farm and started growing vegetables, getting involved with the farmers market. She started the Union County Farmers Market in 2011. She is the current president of the market."

Rick was a practicing veterinarian before joining the military. While in the Air Force, he picked up a master's degree in human resources and was involved in research at the Pentagon.

"Donna wanted a place where she could sell her products and bring in other producers to sell their things," Rick said. "The kids got interested in different aspects of farming. They liked working for themselves. What I brought from the military was the research aspects of knowing how to be involved and execute a lot of government programs, how the government works"

Rick founded The Winery at Seven Springs Farm in 2015. He built it with wood they cleared from the farm. Nikki began operating the winery in 2016. James Jr. runs the Farm-To-Table part of the farm. He has an all-natural Black Angus beef operation, market gardens, five hoop houses and a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).

"Knowing the importance of business structure we established the farm as two limited liability corporations (Farm-To-Table and The Winery at Seven Springs) operating off the farm and a not-for-profit producers association," Rick said. "All of these entities are eligible for a variety of government things. It's important to understand those things when you're looking at

grant opportunities and grant participation.

"When I got here I said, 'Agriculture is expensive,' and after the first year or two I said, 'My goodness! We're going to need some help," Rick said. "So we got associated with our soil conservation folks and NRCS and with rural development."

Rick and Donna both make use of grants. Rick obtained a grant which will secure broadband for all of Union County. Donna has gotten several for area farmers markets. Another helped them establish two lines of 100-kilowatt solar units.

"We feel that we're harvesting sunshine," Donna said.

They've received rural development business grants, value-added producer grants, grants for specialty crops, local food promotion grants, farmers market grants, and more.

"There all kinds of opportunities available for the small farmer to come up with the resources that are needed to expand and grow and diversify their operation if folks are watching," Rick said. "This week we'll turn in \$1.25 million in grant applications. You don't need to be Einstein to do this kind of stuff. You just need a little tenacity."

Their kids inherited some of that tenacity. Nikki worked in a vineyard before coming back to the farm. She liked it. She left her biomedical engineering career and got a degree in oenology (the study of winemaking). She has a shelf full of awards for her wines, including the William L. Beach Award for the best Tennessee wine made with Tennessee grapes.

"We grow six varieties of grapes," she said. "The American varieties, Concord, Catawba, and some French-American hybrids, the Chambourcin and Traminette, they grow well here. We press the grapes, ferment the juice and make wine. I like that I can take a product that I grow here on the farm and make it into something that people enjoy."

Added Rick: "I like the wine business and a winery because it has a sense of place. You plant a vineyard to be here for a few years. Just two weeks ago we got approval for establishing the first American Viticulture Area in Tennessee. We wanted to create a sense of



Above: Donna and her son, James Jr. in one of James' five hoop houses. He specializes in heirloom tomatoes and grows a variety of products to entice people to the five farmers markets he visits every week. Donna is president of the Union County Market.

place and we wanted to be good stewards of the land."

James Jr. learned farming from his parents, the internet and other farmers

"I'm learning from experience, figuring out what works well for you and your farm, and building on that. I run a market garden and beef cattle operation. We sell to farmers markets, local restaurants, in the farm store, and direct to consumers (he has a CSA). We have 18 momma cows right now. We go through about 15 beef cattle a year.

"We specialize in heirloom tomatoes, and we try to grow a little bit of everything to have variety at our farmers market, just to bring people in," he said.

James' wife, Emily, runs the commercial kitchen, bakes fresh bread, jams and jellies, and makes sauer-kraut from the cabbage that they grow.

"We are blessed that both kids decided to take up agriculture," Donna said.
"They were raised as city kids and then they came to the farm and both started businesses. I'm very proud of them."

Added Rick: "I am a strategic vision person and I see value-added agriculture and agritourism for counties like this to grow and to be part of a greater portion of agriculture. To me, this is a quality-of-life business for this county."



Above: Nikki Riddle left her biomedical engineering career and got a degree in oenology (the study of winemaking). She has a shelf full of awards for her wines, including the William L. Beach Award for the best Tennessee wine made with Tennessee grapes.

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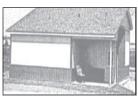
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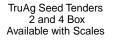
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Record-setting pigs bring home the bacon in Indianapolis

By Stan Maddux **Indiana Correspondent**

INDIANAPOLIS - Some breeding stock pigs broke world records for what bidders were willing to pay during a show featuring more than 3,000 entries.

The Exposition, hosted by the National Swine Registry, was June 13-19 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

"It was a great show," said Cassie Godwin, marketing and communications manager for the National Swine Registry out of West Lafayette, Ind.

Godwin said pigs belonging to exhibitors from 30 states took part in the open show and junior show portions of the competition. More than 300 boars and gilts were in the open show while more than 2,700 pigs were shown in the junior division.

Among the record setters was a Hampshire gilt selling for \$95,000 to Premium Blend Genetic, of Arlington, Ind. The gilt, shown by Heimer Hampshires in Taylor, Mo., went to auction once declared Reserve Champion Overall Purebred Gilt and Champion Hampshire Gilt in the junior show.

A Reserve Champion Landrace Boar showed by Mitchem Family Showpigs, of South Solon, Ohio, sold for a record \$55,000, also to Premium Blend Genetics.

JD Showpigs, from Shawnee, Okla., topped the Crossbred sale with their Champion Crossbred Gilt in the junior show. The pig was purchased by Hilty Showpigs, from Mt. Pleasant, Penn., and Team Sloan Livestock, from Cameron, Mo., for \$95,000. The pig is now the world record selling crossbred gilt and tied for the world record selling gilt.

A pig exhibited by Hunter Logue, of Indiana, broke the Yorkshire Gilt record sale price at \$50,000.

The high bidder for the Champion Overall Purebred Gilt and Champion Yorkshire Gilt at the junior show was sold to Stohlquist Showpigs, of Poplar Grove, Ill. Another Yorkshire gilt shown by Tanner Rose, of Texas, broke that record by selling at \$53,000. The top bidder for the Champion Purebred Gilt and Champion Yorkshire in the junior show was Squared Showpigs, from Red Rock, Texas.

Godwin said about half of the pigs exhibited during the open show were sold during the auction.

Only the gilts in the junior division are eligible for the auction.

said they must finish in the top 5 in their breed and also take part in the open show. Qualifying owners must also exercise their option to offer them for sale. "Not every pig shown is selected to be sold during the sale," she said.

Godwin said the winning bidders use the strong bloodlines in the animals to develop breeding stock and future show pigs to offer at auction.

The Exposition used to be part of the annual



Above: A gilt exhibited by Max Heimer, of Missouri, was declared a champion purebred and champion Hampshire Gilt during a show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.



Above: Hunter Logue, of Indiana, shows his pig during a show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

World Pork Expo which also featured a conference and trade show. Godwin said a split resulted in the livestock portion becoming a separate event in 2019. The conference and trade show also went separate ways and continues to be held in Des Moines, Iowa.

The National Swine Registry offers pedigree ser-



Above: This Reserve Champion Landrace Boar sold for a World Record \$55,000 during a breeding show featuring about 3,000 pigs.

vices, marketing platforms and educational resources that support members in promoting and selling documented swine genetics. According to the organization, the mission is to enhance the value of pedigreed swine, maintain breed integrity and provide relevant member education and youth development experiences.

Glass Barn exhibit combines learning and fun

restrictions effectively canceled the 2020 Indiana State Fair, the Indiana Soybean Alliance (ISA) is ready to welcome patrons back to the Glass Barn in a big way in 2021. How big? Nearly 35 feet long and 20 feet tall in the form of an interactive combine simulator.

"This has been an incredible undertaking and something that will serve as the flagship exhibit in the Glass Barn for many years to come," said Elaine

board member and featured farmer in the Glass Barn. "We recognize that only a small portion of the visitors to the Glass Barn have ever been up-close to a combine, let alone have ever had the chance to ride in one. Through this new installation, everyone will have the opportunity to virtually operate a combine and be immersed in this one-of-akind experience."

This exhibit will invite guests to climb

INDIANAPOLIS - After COVID-19 Gillis, a Delaware County farmer, ISA up into the custom-made simulator to and 4 p.m.) during the fair. During see, hear and feel how these massive machines help Hoosier soybean farmers harvest their versatile crop each fall. Outside of the cab, visitors will be treated to even more information about the engineering that goes into making these farm implements work, a history of ag innovation over the past century and the versatility of soybeans and all their uses beyond feed.

Perhaps the most impressive part of the Glass Barn renovation is that, even after adding this enormous new exhibit, none of the crowd favorites have been removed. Glass Barn visitors will still enjoy the iCreate exhibit, the PictureU photobooth, the uFarm game and live farmer chats hosted three times per day (11 a.m., 2 p.m. the farmer chats, visitors will get an opportunity to virtually visit Indiana farms and have a chance to win \$25 grocery gift cards and milkshake cou-

As part of this year's fair, ISA is asking Indiana soybean farmers to submit their recent family photos to be featured in the Glass Barn slideshow. Submit to glassbarn@indianasovbean.com.

The Glass Barn, sponsored by the Indiana soybean checkoff, has welcomed thousands of visitors at the Indiana State Fair since 2013. This interactive building gives fairgoers an inside look at Indiana's agriculture industry through engaging displays, games and programs. Visit www.glassbarn.org for more information.

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SECTION B

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Thursday, July 8, 2021

Hoosier farmer grows produce in shipping containers not fields

By Michele F. Mihalievich **Indiana Correspondent**

INDIANAPOLIS - If you'd asked Mario Vitalis a few years ago where he expected to be in mid-2021, he probably wouldn't have answered that he'd be growing produce hydroponically in two

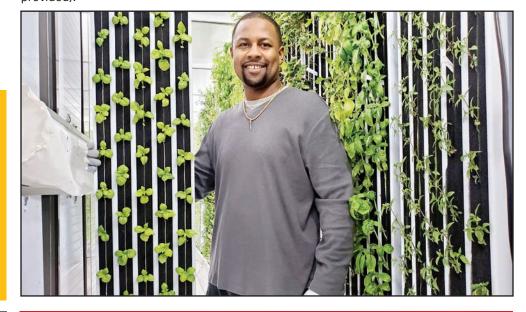
Below: Mario Vitalis in one of his shipping containers. He grows hydroponic leafy greens and herbs in the containers. (photo provided).

repurposed shipping containers. As he explained, though, sometimes you just must follow where life takes you.

"I didn't plan on this," Vitalis said. "Over time, things have panned out. It takes planning and having a vision. You have to go with the flow and see where it leads you."

Vitalis created and owns New Age Provisions Farms. He grows items such

(Farmer continued on page 9B)



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Is traditional marriage becoming old-fashioned?

I have a friend who's been married three times and he's getting ready to say "I do" for a fourth. I say, why bother? I am reminded of the words of the great southern comedic writer Lewis Grizzard, who said that instead of marriage just find a woman you don't like and give her a house. Bolstering his argument is this statistic: in 1940 one in six marriages

Ir's THE PITTS

By Lee Pitts

ended in divorce. Today it's one in every two. Amongst the millennial generation being married is now considered an "alternative lifestyle" and instead of "man and wife" the proper terminology is now "persons living cooperatively." And they don't even have to be of the opposite sex. This makes me wonder, is traditional marriage becoming an outmoded institution?

I really must ask, were humans really meant to be monogamous in the first place? Did you know that only 3 percent of large mammals are monogamous? Female black bears detest males of their own species and only get together for one reason, and it's not to raise the cubs. I used to raise a lot of rabbits and when I put the does and bucks together for a little intimacy I always had to put the doe in the buck's cage because, even though animals rarely kill their own kind, if I put the buck in the doe's cage they'd fight to the death. (Or was it the other way around?)

A realtor friend told me recently that one of the hottest trends in housing in urban areas for couples are homes called "two-fers" with separate entrances, kitchens and bedrooms. I wonder if humans are like rabbits? Does the female involved in this cooperative arrangement always have to go into the male's bedroom, or if he dares enter the woman's bedroom does a violent fight ensue?

Ranchers know that after every cow is bred the bulls will separate themselves from the cows, live independently and have nothing to do with raising their calves. Sadly, you see this phenomenon all too often these days with men who leave the nest once the hard work of raising the kids begins. According to women, two of the biggest questions they have before "coupling" with a man are who will get custody of the money and "Is this the man I want my children spending every other weekend with?"

Scientists say that animals like cattle are incapable of love and instead they just temporarily bond with another who looks and acts like they do because in the animal kingdom "like marries like." We are told that domesticated animal's emotions are simpler and cleaner than humans and love and hate stay separate in their brains. They either hate, or like another being, whereas humans can love and hate the same person. And often do, based on divorce statistics.

The current divorce rate saddens me because I've been married only once in my life to the same wonderful woman for 47 years and can't imagine life without her. I think we have a perfect marriage despite the fact that my father was no role model in how to be a good husband. My parents separated at least three times and actually filed for divorce on three different occasions, the third one finally ending the train wreck. In hindsight I think the marriage ended because my father couldn't stand my mom when he was drunk and she couldn't stand him when he was sober. Which, I might add, was an extremely rare occurrence.

I got the impression they only stayed together because of the children... neither one of them wanted to get stuck with me.

When I was a kid divorces were much frowned upon and children of divorced couples were shunned in higher society. And it took a lot more lawyerly work

to get a divorce. You had to have a reason and blame had to be assigned in court. Usually it was because the husband wasn't being monogamous. But boys will be boys, whether it's bulls or boyfriends. It wasn't like the Cherokee culture where a woman could divorce her husband simply by tossing all his belongings out the front door. If that was all that was required to get a divorce my parents would not have reached their second anniversary and you wouldn't be reading this column right now.

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...takes the swelling out and keeps the milk in the tank." Rasmussen Family: Corey, Laura, Ryle and Cassie (pictured)

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"Udder Comfort takes the swelling out and keeps the milk in the tank," adds daughter Cassie visiting our booth at Central Plains Dairy Expo in March.

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When the Sunday sermon comes to life

VERSES FROM MAMA

James 4:13 & 15: "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit' Instead you ought to say 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."

It is always gratifying to live out a Sunday sermon. One recent Sunday we heard an excellent message on the

foolishness of completely relying on nearby mall doing some errands. I our plans. Who knew that only a few hours later this timely message would prove true and prevent an argument.

The book of James reminds us that although we may decide on a specific course of action, we never know what a day will bring. We must be open to changes that God interjects into our lives. We may not always understand His reasons, but we can trust His wisdom and love.

That Sunday morning Dad and I attended church where the sermon reminded us of James' timely message. Afterwards we ate a quick lunch and set out for a dear friend's

A little after 2 p.m., we pulled into the venue's parking lot and noticed that there weren't many cars there. Feeling a little confused I grabbed the invitation and with unbelieving eyes realized the wedding I thought started at 2:30 didn't actually start

I felt so stupid about my mistake and would have deserved it if Dad had become frustrated by my error. But I was pleasantly surprised. Instead of being aggravated Dad responded by saying, "Well, I guess this is what the Lord wanted for our day!" By Sandra Sheridan

So, for the next two hours Dad and I passed time at a

had no idea why this blip in our day happened but it really turned into a special time for Dad and me to spend together.

While it is prudent for us to plan wisely, we must always hold our objectives loosely. It is arrogant to believe we can control all the details of our lives; it just isn't possible. God may have other plans and we must be flexible and open to his alterations of our schedules or dreams. It is important to understand that we will accomplish our goals only if the Lord wills it to be so.

I don't know what is on your schedule for today, but don't be frustrated if it changes. The LORD may guide you down an unexpected, but providential, path. If He does, enjoy the ride. The sooner you learn to trust Him the happier you will be. Your positive attitude will give Him glory . . . and it may even prevent an argument.

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Removal Of birdfeeders statewide

I did something this weekend I haven't done in 20 years... I took down my birdfeeder, emptied it, and I'm not putting it back up. The reason is to keep songbirds from gathering together and possibly spreading an avian disease outbreak which is killing birds here in Indiana and the Midwest.

The Indiana DNR has SPAULDING OUTDOORS received reports of sick and By Jack Spaulding dying songbirds from 15 $counties\, state wide.\, As\, the\, investigation$ continues, the DNR recommends all Hoosiers remove their birdfeeders statewide. The 15 counties are Clark, Delaware, Hamilton, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, LaGrange, Lake, Marion, Monroe, Newton, St. Joseph, Union, Washington and Whitley.

I have also received individual reports of dead birds from Franklin and Decatur County. I urged the individuals to report it to the DNR.

The DNR is working with the Indiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and the USGS National Wildlife Health Center to determine the birds' cause of death. The affected songbirds showed neurological signs of illness as well as eye swelling and crusty discharge.

Several samples have been sent to the diagnostic lab. All bird samples submitted have tested negative for avian influenza and West Nile virus. Final laboratory diagnostic results are pending.

The following steps are recommended

- Use the DNR sick/dead wildlife reporting tool at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife to alert DNR staff.
- Stop feeding birds until the mortality event has concluded.
- Clean feeders and baths with a 10 percent bleach solution.
- · Avoid handling birds. If you need to handle birds, wear disposable gloves.
- When removing dead birds, wear disposable gloves and place birds and gloves in a sealable plastic bag to dispose with household trash.
- Keep pets away from sick or dead birds as a precaution.

Additional information will be shared when final diagnostic results are received.

Black bear confirmed In Vanderburgh County

DNR biologists have confirmed a black bear sighting occurring in northeast Vanderburgh County before sunrise June 26. The closest town to the location is Elberfeld, in Warrick County. Biologists confirmed the bear from photos taken by the landowner.

"This is Indiana's fourth confirmed black bear," said Brad Westrich, DNR mammalogist. "With expanding bear populations in neighboring states, this is expected. Human-bear conflicts can be avoided if you remove or secure potential food sources from your yard. Bears can smell food from more than a mile away."

Black bears are rarely aggressive toward humans. If you see a black bear:

- Do not feed it.
- Observe it from a distance.
- Do not climb a tree.
- Advertise your presence by shouting and waving your arms and backing slowly away.
- · Report bear sightings to the Indiana Division of Fish & Wildlife at https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-andwildlife/wildlife-resources/animals/ report-a-mammal/

Most problems occurring with bears arise when bears associate food sources with humans and lose their fear of people.

More guidelines for reducing or eliminating the potential for bear-human conflicts:

· Remove bird feeders and bird food if a bear is reported in your area.

> · Clean and store away grills after use.

Eliminate food attractants by placing garbage cans inside a garage or shed.

 Pick ripe fruits and vegetable as soon as possible or place

an electric fence around them to ensure bears cannot reach them.

- · Consolidate beehives you may have and place an electric fence around them.
- Don't leave pet food outside overnight.
- · Don't add meat or sweets to a compost pile.
- Don't climb a tree if you encounter a bear; wait in a vehicle or building for the bear to leave the area.

Readers can contact the author by writing to this publication, or e-mail to jackspaulding@hughes. net. Spaulding's books, "The Best of Spaulding Outdoors," and his latest, 'The Coon Hunter And The Kid," are available from Amazon.com.





The Best of Spaulding Outdoors is the best of Jack Spaulding's columns over 30+ years. Enjoy his humorous trials in the outdoors, and colorful stories of his rural Indiana childhood. Available through Amazon.com in paperback for \$14.95, and for Kindle at \$3.99.

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'18 John Deere 8245R, 1258 hrs., Stk #00703679, \$185,900 (S0)



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'14 John Deere \$680, 1644 hrs. Stk #01703465, \$185,000 (M0)

Haying equipment options for sheep and goat producers

As I write this it is mid-June haying season is well underway. I had delayed having to allow more time for the wild birds (redwing blackbirds, etc.) to complete



their nesting in my fields. My entire 57acre farm is in pasture and hay for my 120 head ewe flock (plus spring lambs) and 20 head goat "flock".

At present, my pastures are as tall as the fence posts, probably due to good soil and several years of natural fertilizing by the sheep and some timely

I needed some small square bales first so I just completed haying a 6-acre field which yielded 395 bales. I'll now let it alone for the rest of the season so it will then be an additional fall pasture.

I like to use a 3 pt mounted sicklebar mower on my tractor. It is an Italian made Enorossi, rebranded as Farm King, 7-foot double acting blade (which does not plug like older sicklebar mowers) with hydraulic lift (so you can go through tight places without lifting the heavy bar manually), Model BFS 210-H, which I ordered and purchased through Birkey's Farm Store, Williamsport, Ind.

I also use it to mow paths in my pastures so my sheep with spring lambs and goats with kids can see through the tall grass over their heads how to get back to the barn quickly if they need to.

For raking the hay, I use a simple ground-driven New Holland 356 rake. The baler I use for the small squares is

Below: The 3x3 baler with 26 hp tractor and bales it produced in field.



a 1960s era New Holland 69 which is old and still running.

Attached the baler I use a Kuhns 4-bale accumulator and then later pick

up the bales with an 8-bale grabber that fits on the loader of the tractor or skidsteer. With the grabber one person can pick up the hay bales out of the field by machine and stack them in the barn seven bales high without using a human hand. Since I am a woman and do this by myself, this is the only way to go. I purchased my accumulator and grabber through Glascock Equipment located in Veedersburg, Ind. That's what I use for small square bales.

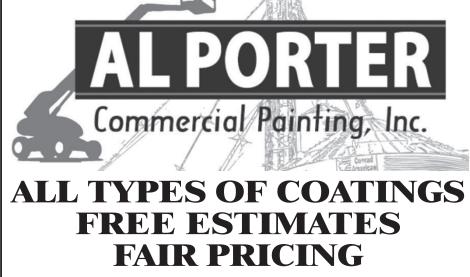
Now for round bales. My next having sessions I will be using my 3x3 round baler. Mine is a Model TRB 910 string tie. The thing that drew me to this baler is that it makes smaller round bales which are safer for sheep and goats, can be operated by a smaller tractor with PTO of at least 18 hp and it has an internal hydraulic motor powered by an electrical cord to the battery of the tractor rather than using hydraulic hoses to open and close the door to eject a bale. I always have trouble connecting hydraulic hoses to tractors, so this was a plus for me.

It's nice to be independent and to be able to provide food for your sheep and goats yourself rather than being dependent on finding a busy local farmer who has the time to do it for you. Happy shepherding!

Joyce Weaver can be contacted at lambjoyw@gmail.com







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MENT: Schulte FX-1800 batwing (New); 7' pulltype Bush Hog; Progressive TD65 finish mower; Killbros 350 bu. gravity bed wagon w/10R22.5 wheels & tires; 3 Killbros 250 bu. gravity bed wagons & other 250 bu. gravity bed wagon; New Holland 56B rake; Hesston Stakhand 10; 3pt. stack mover; Farm King 960 3pt. snowblower w/hyd. chute; Westfield WR100-41 10hp. single phase auger; suitcase & wheel weights; 18.4-34 & 12-38 duals; misc. implement tires & tarps; scaffolding.

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"Home Ec for Everyone" and "Shop Class for Everyone," both by Sharon & David Bowers, illustrated by Sophia Nicolay c.2021.Workman Publishing, \$14.95 each, 204-224 pages

Call Mom or Dad.... stat. That's what you did when you first struck out on your own, and that's what your newly-launched young

adult will do. And that's OK, that's what parents are for - they help and they worry - but with "Home Ec for Everyone" and "Shop Class for Everyone," both by Sharon & David Bowers, illustrated by Sophia Nicolay, you won't have to so much.

For the last 16-plus years, you've been preparing for this. Your nest will empty a little bit but you're still needed. The child who met a washing machine once will want your advice. The one who thinks a missing button is an excuse to shop will call home with questions. The kid who needs you to hang a frame... that's the young adult these books were created for, and the one who'll be grateful for them the most.

"Home Ec for Everyone" focuses a lot on what is perhaps the most important survival skill: cooking. After all, your new adult can't live on burgers forever so this book includes the basics: chopping an onion without crying, making mashed potatoes, using a grill and mixing an easy salad. Mastering these simple things will offer confidence and lead to more: preparing bread dough, knowing what different knives are



for, and canning. There's even a section on cleaning the kitchen when they're done.

> This book also includes and repair clothing, easy removal, folding sheets and other light domestic duties. Some homey crafts are featured inside this book, as well as in "Shop Class for Everyone."

Take metalworking and woodworking. "Shop Class for Everyone" offers a guide to the various tools your crafter will need for all kinds of simple projects, and stepby-step plans to make assurancebuilders like spoon rings and basic frames, as well as bigger projects and handy gifts. Readers will also learn practical skills, like tackling the easy repairs they can do around the house, garage, outside and to keep things working. There's an entire section on plumbing, another one on electrical projects, and one for

keeping a vehicle running.

There's a lot to love about "Shop Class for Everyone" and "Home Ec for Everyone," beginning with the assumption that readers aren't completely inept. The authors don't talk down to anyone in this book and there are no half-answers; readers are addressed as if they're already at least somewhat experienced (or can fake it well). More-difficult projects are not sectioned-off, either: once the step-by-step instructions are heeded, nothing seems to be too daunting. That's a feature that may serve to increase confidence; the illustrations, when they're needed, help even more.

Best of all, these books aren't just for young adults. Keep "Shop Class for Everyone" and "Home Ec for Everyone" around for quick fixes, fast answers, conversions or recipes. They're great if you're suddenly single, or are looking for a good Parents-and-Kids project. Give them as a grad gift, wedding present, or to a child who'll learn fast to call Mom or Dad... wise.

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770 Oliver Tractor-Diesel-Hyd, Oliver | 2-7' Bush Hogs, Wood & Metal Post, Several Used Cattle Gates, Steer Suffer, Fuel Tanks, Air Compressor, Model Drill Press, Work Bench w/vise, I Bean Structures, Hydraulic Cylinders, Scrap Metal/Iron, Steel Shelving, Hand/Power/Lawn & Garden Tools, JC Penny Rear Tine Tiller w/8Hp Eng. & Elect. Start, Farm & Shop Items Unlisted! Wooden Wheel Wagon (disassembled), Large Variety of Misc. Household Items-Furniture-Early Bedroom Suite-Appliances-Knick-Knacks & Lots More!, 1931 Model A Sedan in Running Condition & Good Paint/Interior (always garage kept!), 2001 F750 Dump Truck 53,165 Miles-5.9 Cummins -7 Speed-& Air Brakes-Setup for Landscape-Approx. 7 Yard Bed

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Dog days of summer are here

I walk down the pond edge, under the glare of the sun, noting the changes since my last visit. The mallard ducklings, that I saw so short a time ago darting about like water bugs, are now half grown. The pebble patches where the bream eggs hatched are silting over gain. The yellow flowers of the water iris have come Poor Will's Almanack and gone.... There is never a pause, on summer days, in

By Bill Felker

the changing kaleidoscope of nature. -Edwin Way Teale

The Moon and the Sun

The Mating Milkweed Bug Moon wanes until it becomes the Buzzing Cicada Moon on July 9. Rising in the morning and setting in the evening, this moon passes overhead in the middle of the day. Lunar lore suggests that fish should be more active as the moon passes above you, especially as the barometer falls in advance of the mid-July cool front. And the buzzing cicadas of this moon are the annual cicadas that appear in July each year, not the 17-year cicadas that stopped singing several weeks ago.

Throughout the month, the Sun drops steadily from its solstice declination of 23 degrees 26 minutes to a late-summer declination of 18 degrees 29 minutes. That distance is approximately a fourth of the way toward autumn equinox.

Weather Trends

The Corn Tassel Rains, which typically begin at the end of June, often continue through the period, and temperatures, which cooled somewhat during the first days of July, begin to grow warmer. After the 7th, there is a full 90 percent chance that afternoon highs will reach 80 or above. July 7 through the 9th are some of the worst Dog Days of the year, all three bringing a 10 percent chance of heat above 100 degrees.

Zeitgebers

(Events in Nature that Tell the Time of Year)

Wild cherries are darkening. Thimble plants are setting their thimbles. Red cones of the staghorn sumac become prominent. Behavior of raccoons, opossums and groundhogs becomes erratic in the Dog Day heat.

Elderberry flowers turn to fruit, like the blossoms of pokeweed, poison ivy and the trilliums. August's goldenrod is 6 feet tall now. Lupine pods break apart to spread their seeds. Early white snakeroot, ironweed, Joe Pye weed, boneset, wingstem and tall coneflowers are budding.

Katydids appear at your back porch light. Mold grows rapidly in the warm,

Morning birdsong continues to diminish, making way for the increase of insect volume. Blackberries are August-size this week, but still green. Milkweed pods have emerged almost everywhere. Sycamore trees shed their bark, marking the center of summer. Elderberry flowers fade; green berries take their place.

Mind and Body

The S.A.D. Index, which measures seasonal stress on a scale from 1 to 100, rises into the 40s this week, thanks to an increase in the likelihood of Dog-day heat and lunar phase. To avoid the Summer Blues, balance your indoor time with walks in the cool of the morning and evening.

In the Field and Garden

Throughout the Midwest, the first peaches and summer apples have started coming in. July's wild cherries

are ripening and elderberry flowers have turned to small green berries. Potato leafhoppers reach economic levels in some alfalfa. Bagworms attack arborvitae, juniper, linden, euonymus, maple and fir.

> Detasseling operations are underway in seed corn fields. Mimosa webworms appear on locust trees. By now winter wheat is often a fifth cut. At least 14 leaves have

emerged on each stalk of field corn. The peak period of heat stress begins for summer crops.

The canola harvest gets underway. Fertilize asparagus and rhubarb as their seasons end. Side-dress the corn, and cut summer cabbage and broccoli. Pick all the remaining peas and compost the vines. Plant the latest sweet corn of the year as the moon

Some farmers are planting doublecrop beans after the wheat harvest. Lunar position is superb for that activity. Greenhouse tomatoes seeded today could be producing by October.

Almanack Classics A Blessing to Be Blind By Larry Motel, Greenwich, Ohio

In 1946 when Dad and Mom bought a home on the bay side of the Marblehead Peninsula, I was so happy. I could walk to the woods, open fields and the water every day. I was 10 years old at the time.

There I met two brothers who became life-long friends. Tom was a year younger than me and Jim a vear older. When we first met, I saw Jim's one eye was half gone and scarred over. Then I found out he was completely

Later I found out that when he was about 4, he and an older boy were playing with sticks, as in sword fighting, and Jim got his eye badly damaged. By the time he was 6, the other eye got infected and he turned completely blind.

Well, Jim ended up going to the school for the blind in Columbus, but was home for three months in the summer. We all liked to swim, and Jim was really good at it as he was always physically active. During the last few years in the school for the blind, he took up wrestling. He was so good that when he graduated, he got a scholarship to Baldwin-Wallace College.

(Poor Will continued on page 10B)

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Tipton County, IN: August 23 - Tipton Co. Fairgrounds 615.19*/- Acres • 8 Tracts • Potential Building Site Good Farmland • 3 Bed, 1.5 Bath Country Home

Contact: Larry Jordan 765.473.5849 | John Miner 765.438.2699 AJ Jordan 317.697.3086

White County, IN: August 25 • 319.20 - Acres • 6 Tracts **Best Western Hotel: Brandywine Conference Center** Good Farmland • Woods • 4 Bed, 2 Bath Home

Contact: Larry Jordan 765.473.5849 | John Bechman 765.404.0396 AJ Jordan 317.697.3086

FEATURED LISTINGS

Wells County, IN: Agland Grain, Inc.

11.13+/- **Acres** Contact: Rick Johnloz 260.827.8181

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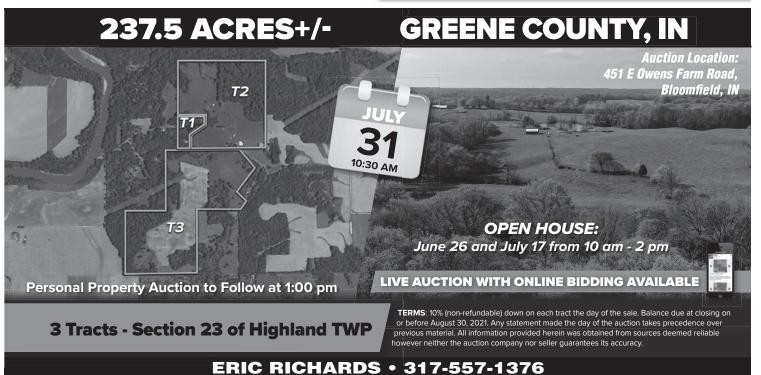
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> **Call Michele At:** 1-800-876-5133, Ext. 122 For Auction Advertising Information

> > #2045 AUCTION



LAND AUCTION



Farmer

FROM PAGE 1B

as herbs, lettuce and other leafy greens vertically in two shipping containers in Indianapolis. The containers are 10 by 40 feet and are 10 feet tall. Hydroponic plants are those grown in nutrient-rich water with no soil.

His original plan for the land on which the containers now sit was to create modular homes out of some containers. After looking into the regulations regarding people living in shipping containers, he found it's harder to make those containers ready for people than it is for plants.

"I did some research about using them for plants and I wanted to learn more," he explained. "There was funding available for using shipping containers. I wrote a business plan." He received his first container in August 2020 and his second in January 2021.

In the short time he's been in business, Vitalis has received some attention from the print and broadcast media. "With the uniqueness of what I'm doing, people are curious. There aren't a lot of African American farmers. They're interested in the story of how I ended up doing this."

Vitalis didn't grow up on a farm. He was born in San Francisco and raised in Indianapolis. His family does have farming roots – his grandmother and her siblings grew up on a farm in the south. "Our history in on the farm," he noted. "Doing this brings me back to those roots. My grandmother left the farm life and sought out a better life. That's how they ended up in San Francisco. She always tells stories about growing up on the farm."

A company called Freight Farms in Boston repurposed the containers for Vitalis. They installed vertical growing racks and provided training and an online database.

The containers are fully insulated and have a cooling system. There is no heating system as the LED lights generate heat. The temperature is kept at 60-65 degrees or 70-75 depending on what is being grown. Plants can be grown year-round.

He uses an app to control the temperature, humidity, lights and the amount of nutrients in the water. "This is a combination of farming and technology," Vitalis said. "I can control the nitrogen, the phosphorous and potassium. There are two levels of knowledge. You have to learn how to operate the system and you need to know something about hydroponics."

Since the plants grow inside in water, there's no concern about contaminants from soil getting into them, he said. "I don't have to worry about weather, pests, herbicides. It's all grown totally inside a container. I don't worry about heat; I don't worry about the elements of nature."

Vitalis said the containers do a great job growing leafy greens with a short root system such as lettuce, kale and arugula; they also grow herbs well. They struggle growing carrots, corn, potatoes, tomatoes and strawberries.

Each container is equal to 3.6 acres of a farm field, he said. "Hydroponics created farmers out of people who don't feel comfortable out in a field. There are no acres to cultivate."

Vitalis considers his produce to be organic though it hasn't been certified. He plans to apply for organic certification in the future. His products are available through Hoosier Harvest Market, Market Wagon and his website, www.newageprovisions.com. He said he's working to increase his restaurant clientele.

While Vitalis doesn't have a farm background, he does have a master's degree in business administration from Wayne State University in Detroit. He has two degrees from Purdue University – a bachelor's in organizational leadership and supervision and an associates in industrial technology.

"Many farmers come from a background of farming and have to learn the business side. I had the business background and had to learn about farming. There's a lot of appreciation for farming. It does take a skill."

He offers tours of his container farm. "I want people to be exposed to this. If you see someone else who looks like you, you know it's possible. That's the exposure I feel good about. It's a new way of farming. When I'm talking to people who don't know about hydroponics, they have questions. They think it's cool once I explain it to them."

He welcomes the opportunity to talk about the benefits of growing hydroponically. "The produce is more nutritious. They're not starved for nutrients. The greens are deeper, the colors more natural and the leaves are more tender. Overall, it's a better-quality product. The arugula, for example, has a nice peppery taste. It's not subtle."

Below: Plants grown hydroponically inside one of the shipping containers owned by Mario Vitalis. (photo provided).



ESTATE AUCTION JOHN DEERE TRACTORS - EQUIPMENT - HOUSEHOLD SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, 10:30 AM

LOCATION: 18827 T-Drive North, **OLIVET, MI 49076**DIRECTIONS: 3 Miles South of Olivet or 8 Miles North of Marshall on Old 27 to T-Drive North Then East ½ Mile to Farm (Calhoun County).

TRACTORS: John Deere 2010 Hi-Crop, Diesel, 3pt. Hitch, Parade Ready; John Deere 1010 Gas Hi Clearance, Parade Ready; John Deere 2940, Open Station, 5224 Hrs., One Owner; John Deere 2510 Diesel w/ JD 148 Loader, w/Wheel Wts., 5394 Hrs., One Owner; 1971 John Deere 3020 Diesel, Syncro, Side Console; John Deere GX 335 Lawn Tractor, 827 Hrs., Power Steering w/54" Deck; John Deere 50, Power Steering, Parade Ready; John Deere Gator, 217 Hrs.







Coulters; Glencoe 7-Shank Disc Chisel; White #508 5-Btm. Spring Reset Semi Mtd. Plow; White #548 4-Btm. Spring Reset Semi Mtd. Plow; IH 5100 21-Hole Grain Drill; JD 245 Loader; JD 1250 6-Row Planter, Dry Fertilizer; (2) 12' Cultipackers; JD 2-Btm. Trailer Plow; 20' Cart Drag; Kelly #40 3pt. Backhoe; (2) 225-Bu. Gravity Wagons; Kewanee Elevator; 6' 3pt. Rotary Chopper; 3pt. Cement Mixer; 3pt. Posthole Auger; JD F525 Lawn Mower; LDR. Bale Spear; 3pt. Bale Spear; PTO Manure Spreader; 2-Wheel Trailer; 2-Section Drag; Pull-Type Sprayer; PTO Seeder. SHOP TOOLS & PARTS: Sioux Valve Grinder; Sioux Valve Seat

EQUIPMENT: John Deere 7000 6-Row Planter, Liq. Fert., No-Till

Grinder; Lincoln 225 Welder; Motor Stand; Cherry Picker Hoist; (5) Air Compressors Various Descriptions; Floor Jack; Bottle Jacks; Car Dolly; Craftsman Radial Arm Saw; Gas Power Washer; Platform Scale; Elec. Chain Falls; Husqvarna 455 Chain Saw; Lawn Roller; Ice Shanty; Buzz Saw; 12' V-Bottom Boat; Johnson 9½ Hp Boat Motor; Selection of JD 50 Parts including Sheet Metal, Engine Parts, Etc.; Selection of JD G Parts; (5) JD Suitcase Wts.; Other Wts.; 12.4x38 Tires & Rims; Pallet Shelving; Metal Steps; Other Misc.; JD 2-Cyl. Parts; Misc. Shop Tools & Outside Items.

TRAILERS: 1999 Load Trail 30' Tri-Axle Gooseneck Trailer (one owner); 16' Tandem Axle Implement Trailer.

QUANTITY OF HOUSEHOLD, ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES IN-CLUDING FURNITURE, KITCHENWARES & JD TOYS.







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Sale Calendar

The Sale Calendar lists dates, nearest town or location, owner, auctioneer and type of sale. The page numbers refer to ads in this week's paper. Listings without page numbers either had ads in previous issues, or will have ads in a future issue of Farm World. Auction listings are only made available to those who have placed a paid ad in Farm World. Ads will only be published two times in the Sale Calendar: The week of the actual auction and the week prior if the auction ad is received in time to include in the Sale Calendar.

JUL 10 HINCKLEY, ILLINOIS: Galloway - Espe Auctioneering. Equipment, antiques, collectibles.. 9 am SEE AD ON **PAGE XX**

JUL 10 KEMPTON, ILLINOIS: Clapp Estate — Bradleys Auction Service. Tractors, equipment, trucks, trailers, other.. 9:30 am

JUL 10 FERDINAND. INDIANA: Lindauer — Brahm & Brahm Auctioneers. Personal property.. 9 am

JUL 10 MACY, INDIANA: Deeds - Lester Miller Auctioneer. Tractors, farm equipment, backhoe, household, collectibles.. 10 am

JUL 10 LEBANON, OHIO: Consignment - Gene Steiner Management. Farm equipment and machinery.. no time given SEE AD ON PAGE 9B

JUL 10 OSTRANDER, OHIO: Marti — Wigton Real Estate & Auction. Real estate.. 10 am

JUL 10 WAUSEON. OHIO: Johnston — Bonnigson & Associates. Farm machinery.. 10:07 am

JUL 15 DECATUR, INDIANA: R & M Landscaping — Ness Bros. Auctioneers. Tractors, trucks, trailers, lawn equipment, tools, more.. 10 am SEE

AD ON PAGE 7B

JUL 17 FOWLER, INDIANA: Gwilliam Estate — Larry Scherer Auctioneer. Tillage equipment, trucks, shop tools...

JUL 17 OKEANA, OHIO: Starr & others — Walnut Harvest Auctions. Farm equipment, household, misc.. 10 am SEE AD ON PAGE 7B

Brian Hasty Auction Co.. JD tractors, equipment, household.. 10:30 am SEE **AD ON PAGE 9B**

Trust — Hess Auction Co.. Real estate.. 5:30 pm

Farms 194 — Schrader Real Estate & Auction Co., Inc., Real estate., 6 pm

JUL 29 GREENSBURG, INDIANA: Land Auction #2014 — Landproz, Brian Owens. 32 +/- acres in Decatur County, IN.. 6:30 pm SEE AD ON PAGE 10B

JUL 31 BLOOMFIELD, INDIANA: Land Auction — LandProz, Brian Owens. Personal property and real estate...

AUG 12 WILMINGTON, OHIO: Consignment — The Wendt Group. Surplus equipment.. 10:30 am

TELL THEM YOU SAW THEIR AD IN Farm World

Poor Will

FROM PAGE 8B

He did so well in wrestling there that he was offered a scholarship to Ohio State. He took it and this move changed his life for the better forever. He met a girl who had been blind from birth, and they fell in love. After Jim graduated, they got married. He later told his brother Tom and me that maybe it was a blessing to be blind because he would never have met someone he loved so much.

Poor Will Pays for Your Stories

Poor Will pays \$4 for unusual and true farm, garden, animal and even love stories used in this almanac. Send yours to Poor Will's Almanack at the address below.

WEEK'S **ANSWERS LAST** TO **SCKRAMBLER**

to estimate In order SCKRAMBLER IQ, award yourself 15 points for each word unscrambled, adding a 50-point bonus for getting all of them correct. If you find a typo, add another 15 points to your IQ.

OBY BOY **UYOB BUOY HOAY AHOY LOLAY ALLOY** VONYOC **CONVOY OEYLDP DEPLOY MEOPLY EMPLOY SEPOY** PESYO **CEVIRYO** VICEROY **UOOYRDRC CORDUROY**

THIS WEEK'S RHYMING SCKRAMBLER

KALNB **KNBA NYKA**

JUL 17 FLAT ROCK, INDIANA: Leap Estate — Owens Auction Service. Farm equipment.. 11 am SEE AD ON PAGE

10:30 am EST SEE AD ON PAGE 10B

JUL 18 OLIVET, MICHIGAN: Yost —

JUL 20 LYNCHBURG, OHIO: Fender

JUL 22 OSGOOD, INDIANA: Mink

10:30 am SEE AD ON PAGE 8B

KNAS TKNA DNKA RKNAD

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PANKS

Bill Felker's Daybook for July (with extensive details for every day of the month) is now available. For your autographed copy, send \$20 to Poor Will, P.O. Box 431, Yellow Springs, OH 45387. Or order from Amazon or from www.poorwillsalmanack.com.

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OLSON AUCTIONS CONSIGNMENT HIBID ONLINE ONLY AUCTION Auction opens August 14, 2021 & ends August 18, 2021 olsonauctions.hibid.com

Location: 259 S 700 W, Winamac, IN

Advertising Deadline: Tuesday, July 27th Call Nate @ 574-242-1262

** Consignments taken August 7th (8-4) & August 9th-13th (8-5) **

Inspection: Friday, August 13th (9-2) ET Buyer pick up: August 19th, 20th & 21st (9-4) ET

Gary Olson 574-595-5164 - Nate Swartzell 574-242-1262 - Kenny Becker 574-242-0146

Gary L. Olson Auctioneer IN Auc Lic #AU01031658



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TELL THEM YOU SAW THEIR AD IN Farm World

- TILING EQUIPMENT - TRUCKS - SHOP TOOLS -

LOCATED AT 3790 E ST. RD. 18, 3 MILES EAST OF FOWLER, IN ON ST. RD. 18 **SATURDAY, JULY 17, 2021, 10:30 AM EST**

- TILING EQUIPMENT -

Allis Chalmers Model 300 Buckeye wheel tiling machine, all-wheel drive, cable winch, 2-speed, runs; 2003 Case 1850K bulldozer, 10' straight blade, tilt cab; 2000 IHC D dump truck, 10' steel bed, 9-speed, air brakes; Oshkosh 4WD truck for stringing tile, D, Cat engine; Oshkosh 4WD truck, gas, chassis only; Hancor Model 423 with Model 3500 backfiller, 4WD, 5-speed, 2-way auger; 56" Bucket for dipping ditches: Vermeer V850 trencher: Farmall 560 NF tractor, gas, fast hitch; Large yard roller; Pull-type tile stringer.

- ATV - PICKUP - BOATS -

1999 Polaris 425, 4WD ATV; 1979 Ford F150 4WD, 4-speed; OBC wood-slat-bottom 18' boat, original trailer, excellent condition; 12' Aluminum jon boat; 1971 Sea King 14' aluminum boat, 7.5-hp outboard, trolling motor, trailer; Argo Conquest 8-wheel all-terrain vehicle, doesn't run; 1993 Geo Tracker; 2017 Detro 16' tandem-axle trailer with ramps; Tracks for skid steer; Wind Power single-phase 14,000-watt PTO generator.

- SHOP TOOLS - INVENTORY -

Trimble MS750 laser; Trimble laser kit; 8' & 6' Tripods; Hand-held lasers; Grade finder laser system; Raven GPS; Craftsman 10" table saw; 3-ton Floor jack; Acetylene cutting torch; Honda 2,200-PSI pressure washer; Powermate 21-gal. air compressor; Large vise; Bench grinder; Screw & bottle jacks; Stihl MS170 chain saw; Stihl weed eater; SnapOn nitrogen filling kit; Metal stools; Aluminum ramps; Makita cut-off saw: Jack stands: Handyman jacks; 1" Air impact; 10-drawer Metal cabinet; 2 Double metal storage cabinets; Battery charger; Skil saw; All kinds of oil & antifreeze: Ratchet straps; Fuel pressure tester; Pair hand carts; Hand wrenches; Long-handled tools; Electric drills; Air tank; Log chains

- MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS -

10 IHC 96-lb. front weights; 10 IHC 76-lb. front weights; 500-gal. Fuel tank with electric pump; Troy-Bilt 24", 5.5-hp snow thrower; Pair John Deere wheel weights; 6' Fast hitch blade; Some tile fittings; 3 Rolls of tile; 110gal. Fuel tank with 12-volt pump; Bicycles; Steel wheels: And much more

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TERMS: Cash or check with proper ID. Not responsible for accidents or property after sold. Announcements day of sale take precedence over printed material. LUNCH SERVED. AuctionZip.com #20042.

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#2014 AUCTION



LIVE AUCTION



ARKS ESTATE FARM EQUIPMENT LATE MODEL - LOW HOUR SELLS ABOSLUTE - NO RESERVE

ONLINE AUCTION ENDS TUES. JULY 27 1273 Parks Implement Rd - Mitchell, IN Just on the S edge of Mitchell at the corner of IN-37 & Parks Implement Rd!









The Charlie Parks Estate is offering an excellent line of late model equipment at no-reserve auction! Mr. Parks was a long-time large acreage farmer & equipment dealer in South Central Indiana. Visit beckortauctions.com to view 500+ lots & 5000+ photos of this massive offering. Loading assistance will be available & two different open houses will be held for viewing. Feel free to call the project manager or office for more information.

INSPECTIONS: Tuesday July 20 from 4-6 PM& Monday, July 26 from 12-2 PM. JOHN DEER TRACTORS: "12 JD 9410R 4WD, hrs: 3767, trans: 18/6FS, premium ab. 3-th, weights, hwif-5, tirres: 480/80R56 with duals: 10 D 8330 MWP JD one owner, hrs: 2993. 3 pt. hyd: 4, rear: 18.4 R46 with duals, planter ready, (16) sult case-weights: "10 JD 7830 MWP JD 18-75 MWP JD 18-7

















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